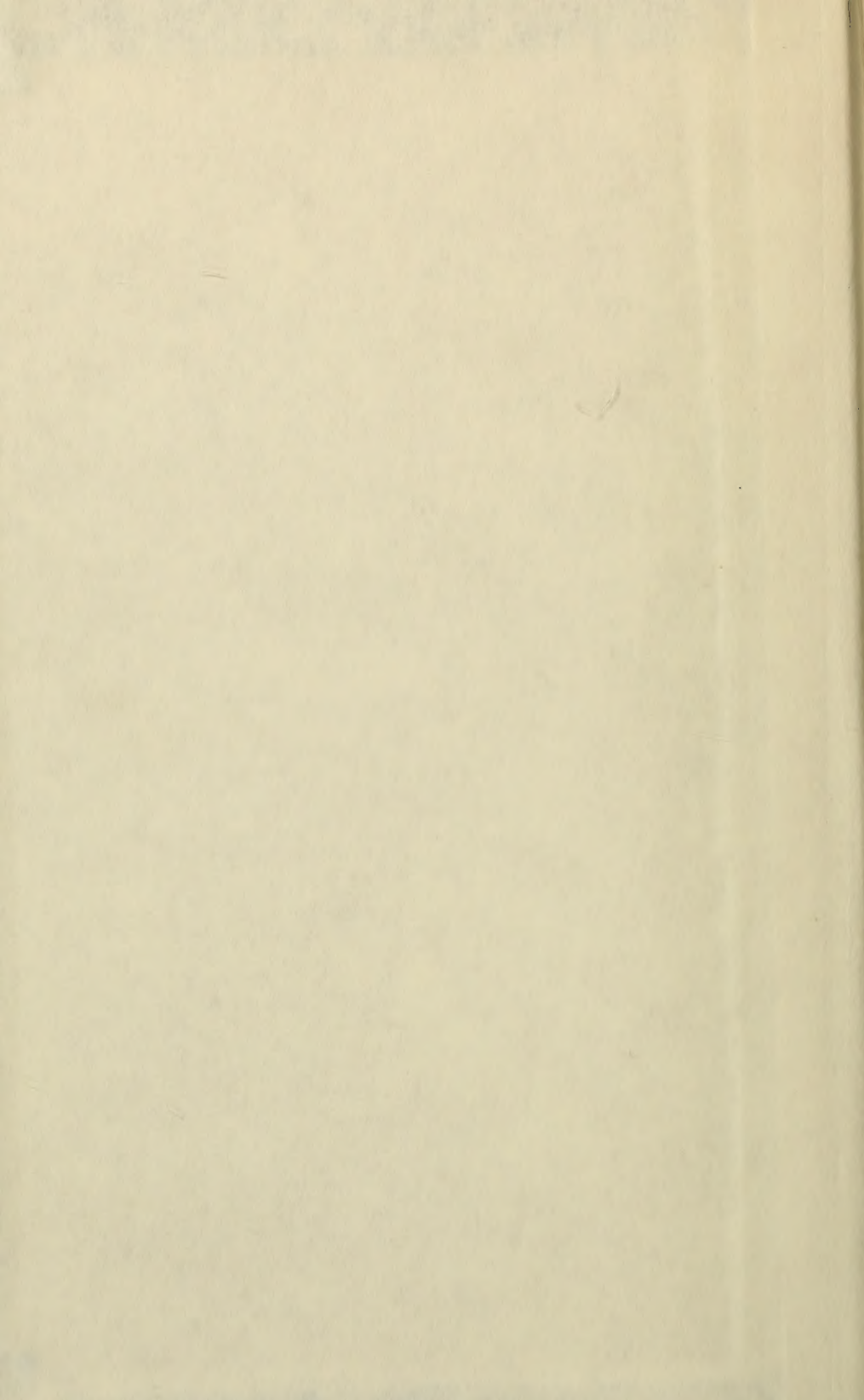


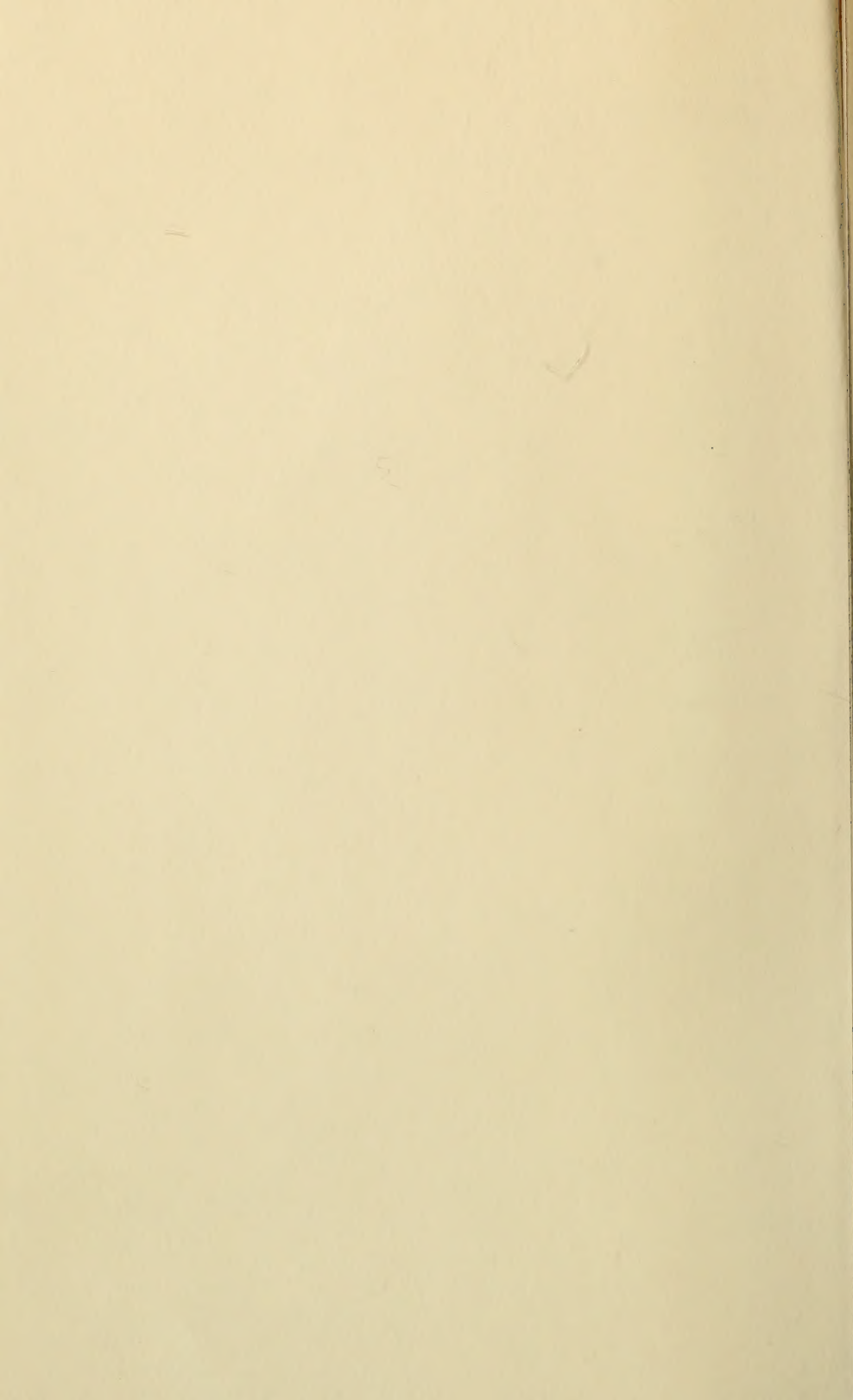


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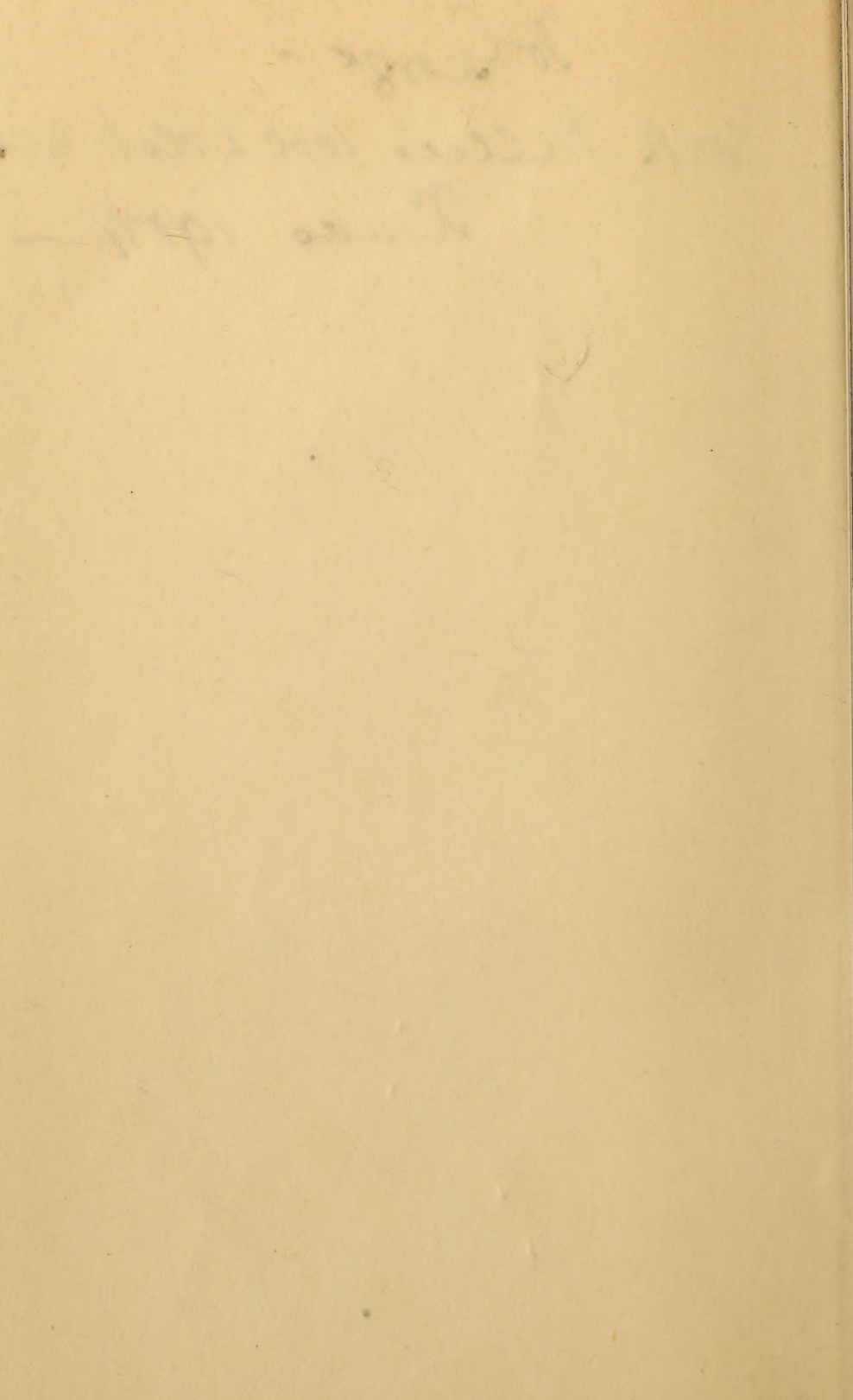
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To George -

With Nellie's love & best wishes

Kanas 1904 -





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GUILDFORD IN THE OLDEN TIME

GUILDFORD IN THE OLDEN TIME

SIDE-LIGHTS ON THE HISTORY OF
A QUAIN OLD TOWN

By

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AUTHOR OF 'THE HISTORY OF PORTRAIT MINIATURES,'
ETC., ETC.

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PREFACE

THE following pages do not pretend to contain a History of Guildford, nor to afford a perfect Guide to the town.

The long-projected History of the place is not yet written ; and, although the author of this book has for many years hoped to accomplish this task, yet at present it is not possible for him to attempt a work of such large size and serious importance as a complete history of his birthplace would involve.

This book does not also compete with the popular guides to the town, and it will be found that it does not contain the items of detailed information that such a book would require, for there is nothing in it as to modern dwellings, the Post Office, the railway station, or the hotels of the place.

It may best be regarded as a series of essays on subjects concerning the town, that are but little understood by the general resident, side-lights on its history, affording, it is believed, some interesting information as to Guildford in the past, and some ideas as to the future.

To the casual visitor, as well as to the resident in the place, it is commended, inasmuch as it contains much information that can be gleaned from no other work—the result of long and patient investigation—and it will assist to a better understanding of the old town and its buildings. To the student it will, perchance, be found of some interest also, although not specially prepared for the man of high antiquarian attainments ; and its aim has been not so much to narrate the story of the sights seen by every visitor as to tell of the buildings that have now

perished, of habits and worthies of past generations, and of the relics of the past that still remain to enlighten the resident as to the days of long ago.

The author desires to express his acknowledgment to the Editors of the *Surrey Times* and the *Surrey Advertiser* for the permission so kindly afforded him of reprinting certain articles (now more or less amended and modified) that have appeared in past years in their journals, and also to many friends who have greatly aided him in the compilation of these pages, notably Mr. C. J. Barlow, Dr. J. Willis Clark, Mr. G. R. Dennis, Mr. H. J. Gill, Mr. F. S. Miller, Mr. Ralph Nevill, Mr. Philip Palmer, the Rev. H. R. Ware, Mr. David Williamson, Mrs. Butler, and the Misses Russell.

NOTE AS TO THE ILLUSTRATIONS

MANY of the illustrations in this book are taken from water-colours of Old Guildford now in the possession of Mrs. Butler, of The Firs, Guildford. In this lady's possession there is a wonderful series of sketches made by various artists, and purchased from time to time by her ancestors. The author is indebted to her for permission to reproduce the Old Post Office, the Bridge, the Interior and Exterior of St. Nicholas' Church, the Crypt and its Details, the Coach Office, the Jolly Butcher Inn, the Friary (two views) and its Porch, the Interior of St. Mary's Church, and Mr. Martyr's House.

For the sketch of the old cottage where Abbot was born, which stood on land now occupied by Messrs. Crooke's brewery, he has to thank Mr. Heather. For the use of the drawings of the interior and exterior of St. Thomas's Hospital he expresses grateful thanks to the Misses Russell. These ladies are descendants of that ancient family whose attachment to Guildford has always been so sincere, and to whom lovers of the old town and its historians are so warmly grateful for the histories they compiled, the sketches they prepared, and the thousand and one art treasures of archæological importance they preserved.

The view of the Grammar School is from a photograph taken by an Old Boy, and the portrait of Dr. Merriman is given at the request of many Old Boys, who unite with the author in claiming him as its greatest and best Head Master, and who are grateful for innumerable benefits they owe to his excellent instruction, and his firm but judicious training during the years in which they were his scholars.

The illustration of Guildford during the Election riots is reproduced by kind permission of Sir William Ingram, that of the High Street, with its signs, is taken from a water colour drawing by an unknown hand, and the portrait of Archbishop Abbot is from the original oil painting in the possession of the author.

The photographs of the Town Plate and of the Council Chamber are by Mr. W. Shawcross, of Guildford.

All the remaining illustrations—the views of the Town and Cock Pit, the Traders' Tokens, the Handbills, the Playing Card, the Theatre Bill, the Telegraph Form, and the Race Card—are from the author's own collection; but to all those persons for whose assistance he is indebted he tenders a very hearty expression of his thanks.

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CHAPTER I

SOME NOTES ON THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF GUILDFORD

THERE has been a good deal of discussion as to the meaning of the word Guildford, and the usual explanation that has been given connects it with the existence of an ancient trade guild governing the place, and with a ford over the river Wey running at the foot of the High Street.

There have been other explanations of the meaning of the word, and one writer has suggested that it was originally Gavelford, and that it took its name from a little island or heap of sand dividing the stream of the river Wey into two branches here. It is probable, however, that neither of these explanations is the accurate one, and it is more likely that the town has derived its name from an ancient name for the river.

It seems to be possible that the river was at one time called the Gil or the Guilou, and that the town took its name from that. Mr. Ralph Nevill, the latest writer who has considered this somewhat difficult question, has carefully worked out in volume xvii. of the Surrey Archæological Society's proceedings his theory as to the origin of the name, and it is probable that this theory is the correct one. He points out that there was a river Guilou now called the Wiley in the time of King Alfred, and it seems possible that our river may have borne the same name, and that the change of the place name from Gil or Guilou to Wey may have taken place in connection with the existence of the well-known road

which passes over the river, and which was known as the Ancient Way, and later on as the Pilgrims' Way.

The town must have had a name long before it had a guild, but, as we shall see later on, the story of its guild is very closely interwoven with its history. The earliest reference to the town occurs in the will of King Alfred, A.D. 900, and he bequeathed it to Ethelwald his nephew, on whose rebellion or death, which happened about five years afterwards, it reverted to the Crown. It was royal demesne at the time of the Norman Conquest, and is mentioned in Domesday Book, but, although there must certainly have been a church in Gildeford at that time, no such building is referred to in the record.

Previous to the time of Ethelwald, it would seem probable that the town was part of the personal estate of the Anglo-Saxon monarch, for, had it belonged to the Crown, it could hardly have been the object of a testamentary gift.

The only important historical event connected with the town in Anglo-Saxon times is the massacre of the Danes by Godwin Earl of Kent, which is said to have taken place at Gild Down, near Gildeford, in the eleventh century.

It would seem probable that the original hamlet constituting the town was clustered round the banks of the river, especially on the west side of it, and part of that which is now known as St. Nicholas' parish probably represents the original Gildeford.

On the other side of the river were the Castle and all its outlying buildings, and the town on that side at first probably consisted of the residences of those who were attached to the Castle or tenants of it.

The mound on which the Castle keep now stands was in all probability an Anglo-Saxon fortified hill surrounded by a ditch. Whether or not it had an

connection with Roman work is difficult to decide, but some very fine Roman coins (Sesterii) have been found just outside the present keep, and also some remains both of glass and pottery distinctly Roman in their origin. Several of these coins are in the possession of the writer. Very probably the mound was not wholly artificial, but partly natural, and strengthened by artificial earth-works. It has been pointed out by Mr. Malden that it was hardly possible to build a solid Norman keep upon the top of a mound that was wholly artificial, as the weight would have been too great for the insecure foundation. The keep was probably erected in the time of Henry II., but part of the outlying portions of the Castle may have been of an even earlier date.

Not very far from the keep stands the tower of St. Mary's Church, by far the oldest part of that structure, and going back most certainly to the eleventh century, if not to a far more remote period.

As has been pointed out by Mr. Ware, this tower is the work of Englishmen, and not of the French masons who came over with William the Conqueror, but whether it preceded the Conquest, or was erected by Saxon masons after that time, is not easy to determine. It seems probable that it is the oldest building in Guildford, and that, if any church was originally attached to it, such a building was of wattle or of timber, and not of stone. The presence of the two windows in its north and south walls, with their characteristic Saxon double splay, proves that this tower was lighted from the open air long before any other part of the church was built.

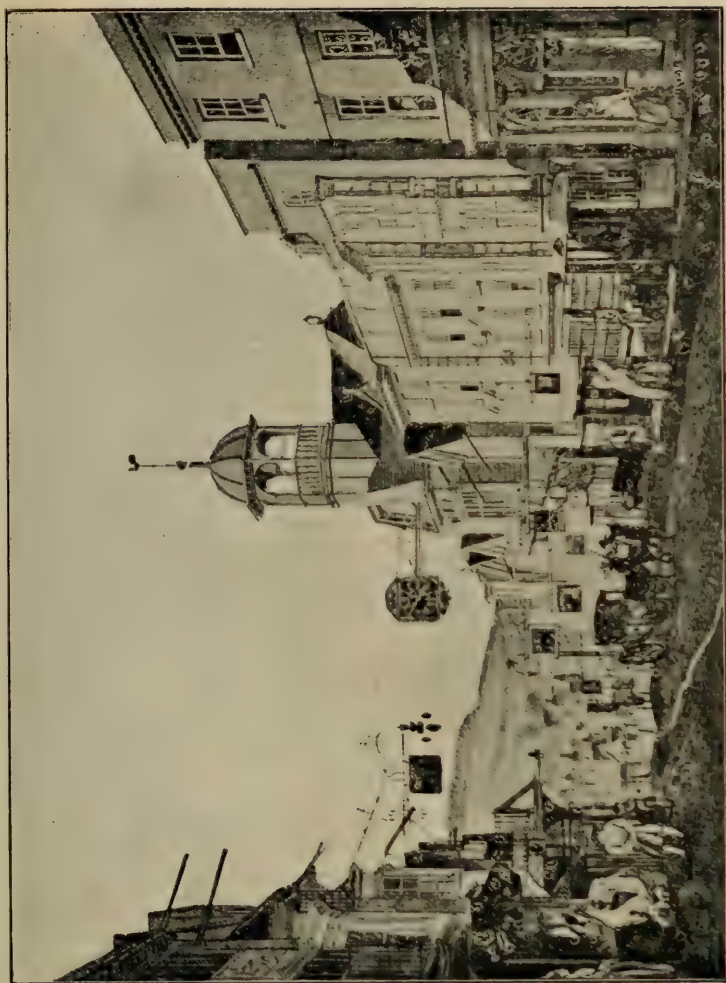
The earliest known church of St. Nicholas on the west side of the river is said to have had a round tower, and this tower is described in one place as of immemorial

antiquity. It is just possible, therefore, that in amongst the little cottages which nestled at the foot of the river, and which constituted the old town, there may have been an Anglo-Saxon church on the site now occupied by St. Nicholas' Church.

Certain it is that in the twelfth century, on Feb. 3rd, the festival of St. Blaise (the patron saint of the town as the patron of wool-combers), St. Nicholas' was considered to be the church of the guild, and 'at the church nigh unto the river, where the fulling took place' the Gild-Merchant made its corporate communion. Probably the names Bury Street, Bury Fields and Bury Lane have their origin in the existence near this spot of the ancient borough of Gildesford.

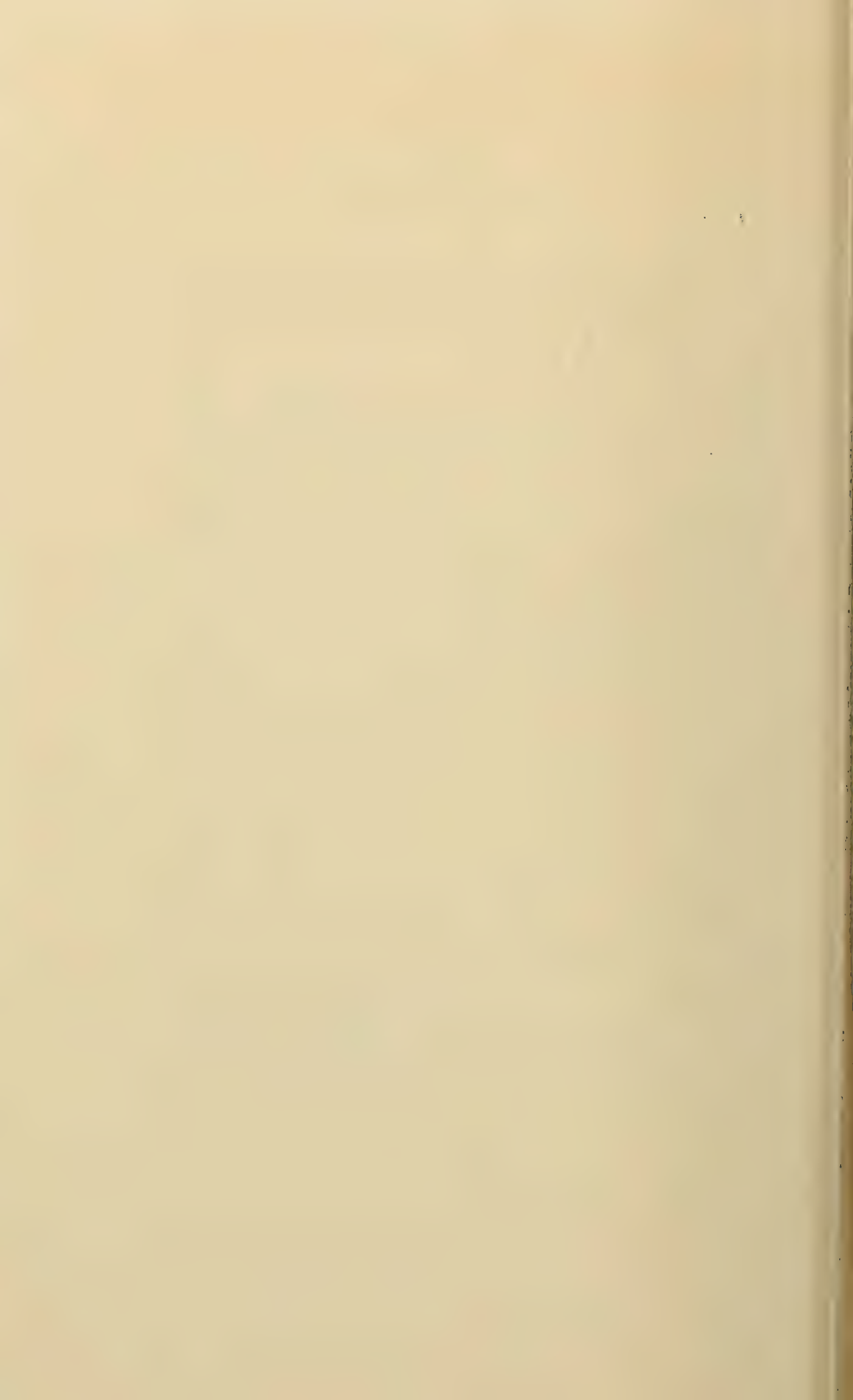
Outside the Castle walls, at the extreme eastern end of the High Street, there must have grown up a small community of traders, who had settled down under the shelter of the fortress. For them also a place of worship was necessary, but we have no reference respecting Holy Trinity Church prior to the thirteenth century, when the advowson of the parish was given to the Priory of Merton by William Testard, Lord of the Manor of Poyle, who died about 1230. Two hundred and fifty years later we have the record of a chantry founded in this church.

It will be seen, therefore, that the town originally consisted of three distinct settlements; the Castle, with all its outlying buildings, covering several acres of ground, and occupying the rising land above the river, with its keep standing on the great mound in the centre and dominating the place; the little cluster of cottages round by the river, in which in all probability the wool and cloth trade, which gave Guildford a later importance, originally commenced; and the trading community at the east end outside the Castle walls.



THE HIGH STREET OF GUILDFORD, circa 1730.

From a water colour drawing.



In the will of John Abbot, 1654, he bequeathed 20s. to the poor of the upper parish in Gildeford, the same amount to the poor of the middle parish, and 10s. to the poor of the lower parish, and these titles for the three parishes are still in use, and probably have reference to the three-fold history of the place.

The earliest houses now remaining in the centre of the High Street were probably built from such portions of the Castle as were gradually destroyed, and from the chalk excavated from the quarries in which Henry III. kept the wine produced from the vineyards on his estates in Gascony and Poitou. The order is still in existence which he issued to the Sheriff of Surrey, who was probably his agent, in the thirty-fourth year of his reign, to sell forthwith the King's wines that were at Gildeford, to permit no others to be sold in Surrey until these were disposed of, and to pay the proceeds of the sale into the King's wardrobe account.

In the time of the Conqueror a good deal of the land in Gildeford was granted by him to Robert Testard, and his family is said to have been responsible for the erection of the part of St. Mary's Church which is later than the tower, and the original church of Holy Trinity.

Thomas de la Puile, who gives his name to the Poyle Estate, the Poyle Charity, and Pewley Hill, was in possession of the land in the time of Henry III., and his family and the Testards appear to have been the chief owners under the Crown in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

The only other buildings of really mediæval date which the town contains beside the Castle and St. Mary's Church are the two crypts in the centre of the High Street, and to all these three buildings fuller reference will presently be made.

It has already been pointed out that the town of

Gildeford was royal estate, but the only evidence that we have as to the residence of Anglo-Saxon monarchs in Gildeford consists in the coins which were struck in the place, and which bear the names of Ethelred II., Cnut, Harthacnut, and Harold II. The same series extends also to William I. and William II., but the earliest monarch of the Norman line who we know for certain lived at Guildford was Henry II., who, shortly after his first coronation, which was on the 20th of December, 1154, enclosed a considerable tract of land on the north side of Gildeford Down, and converted it into a park.

Here he kept Christmas in 1186, probably residing at his palace in the park rather than at the Castle, although it is quite possible that the mansion house in the park was not erected until the time of Henry III.

Here it was also that he gave audience to the two Legates sent by Pope Urban III. to assist at the investiture of Prince John with the kingdom of Ireland, and here also it was that the Prior and Convent of St. Swithin in Winchester presented their complaint against their Bishop, who had deprived them of three dishes at every meal out of the thirteen allowed them by their founder, on which occasion the monks were dismissed by the King with a severe reproof for their excess.

King John was often at Gildeford, the two chief occasions being the Easter of 1199 and Christmas in 1200, and on the latter occasion he kept his Christmas at the place 'with uncommon splendour and magnificence' with his newly-married wife Isabella of Angoulême. He visited the town altogether no less than nineteen times in eleven different years.

In the time of Henry III. we know that there was a royal residence in this place, and on the 4th April, 1240, the Sheriff of Surrey was directed to repair the glass windows of the King's house and chapel at Gildeford,

which had been broken by a storm, and to restore the damaged roofs.

In 1246 there are still further references to the King's palace, as instructions were ordered for the erection of a nursery for the King's son Edward, not yet seven years old, which was to have bars at its windows, and below it was to be a room for the King's noble pages, with windows. Orders were also issued for the erection of a room for the Queen, to have two marble pillars in it, and glass windows, which were to be made to open and shut, and to have wooden shutters for protection inside.

In 1255 bills amounting to over £100 were presented to the King's treasurer for payment for these various rooms and the chapels, and the wainscot oak with which they were lined. At that time we hear of some decorations in the rooms, carvings of animals for the King's seat, and a painting of the story of Dives and Lazarus at the opposite end of the King's dining-hall. It does not seem possible to state with any certainty whether these various rooms, with their glass windows, were for the Castle or for the King's mansion in the park, but it seems generally likely that they were for the latter building.

This decorative work was executed by William of Florence, the King's painter, who was paid 6d. a day for his wages by the surveyor for the King's manor of Gildeford. He appears to have also painted the fore-covering of the altar in the great chapel, and to have decorated the rooms for Eleanor, the wife of Edward, the eldest son of the King.

At about this time we have recorded the death at Gildeford of Prince Henry, eldest son of Henry III., and following it the establishment of the Dominican Friars in the place, to which reference will be made later on.

Edward II. occasionally resided in Gildeford, and two of the charters granted to the town in the eighteenth year of his reign were dated at this place.

Edward III. was here in 1331, and from Gildeford issued the summons to the Archbishop of Canterbury to attend a Council at Westminster. He also spent Easter of 1336 in the town, and Christmas in 1337, 1340, and 1347. Again, we find him here in 1366, and on the 1st of October that year he demised the town of Gildeford with its rentals to the ruling body of the place, expressly reserving for himself the park, palace and Castle.

On more than one occasion Henry VI. was in residence in the place, and twice at least Edward IV. was here, in 1479 and in 1482.

Henry VIII. and his household resided in Gildeford on more than one occasion, and here it was that Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, Grand Master of the King's Household, died in 1546.

Edward VI. came here in the summer of 1550, and again in 1552, very shortly before his death, and Queen Elizabeth is believed to have visited the town in about 1580, on the occasion of her presenting the Mayor's staff.

Probably by the time the Tudor kings came to Gildeford the old palace in the park had fallen into disuse, possibly into decay, and the buildings at one time occupied by the Dominican Friars were adapted for royal residence. There it was certainly that Henry VIII. stayed, and in Gildeford, in 1538, one of the decrees for the dissolution of the monastic houses was signed. On that occasion Thomas Cromwell, the Secretary of State, was lodged at St. Nicholas' Rectory, as the whole of the Friary buildings were taken up by the King and his suite.

The early Stuart kings visited Gildeford on more than one occasion, Charles II. especially being received with

great enthusiasm on his visit in September, 1660, when the Corporation presented him with a service of plate, decorated the town profusely, and entertained him at a suitable banquet.

George IV., as Prince Regent, used to drive through the town on his way to Brighton, and for his convenience the alteration was made in the length of St. Mary's Church, in order that his carriage might have room to pass easily.

Queen Victoria, on more than one occasion, drove through the town before her accession to the throne, but, after she was Queen, her visits were confined to a sojourn for a short time at the station in the Royal train while on the way to the Isle of Wight.

Of the old palace in the park nothing now remains. An archway and some of its stonework are believed to be incorporated in the farmhouse of Guildford Manor Farm, where the moat still exists, and it is stated that in a large field adjacent to that farmhouse the line of the foundations of the old palace can be determined when the field is full of ripe corn by reason of an alteration in the colour of the ear of the corn growing where the building originally stood.

The later palace, formed out of the old Friary, has also disappeared, and only the Castle keep remains as evidence of the buildings which were occupied by a long line of English monarchs from the time of Ethelred, 978, down to the Tudor sovereigns.

CHAPTER II

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TOWN, THE TOWN HALL, THE CORPORATION ARMS, PLATE AND INSIGNIA OF OFFICE

THE government of the town dates back to a period of very remote antiquity.

It is known as a Corporation by Prescription, and has many ancient charters, the first charter on record being the one granted by Henry III. in 1256. This placed the government in the hands of a body called the approved men of Gildeford, but it is probable that a corporation, as we now term it, was in existence in the town long before this date.

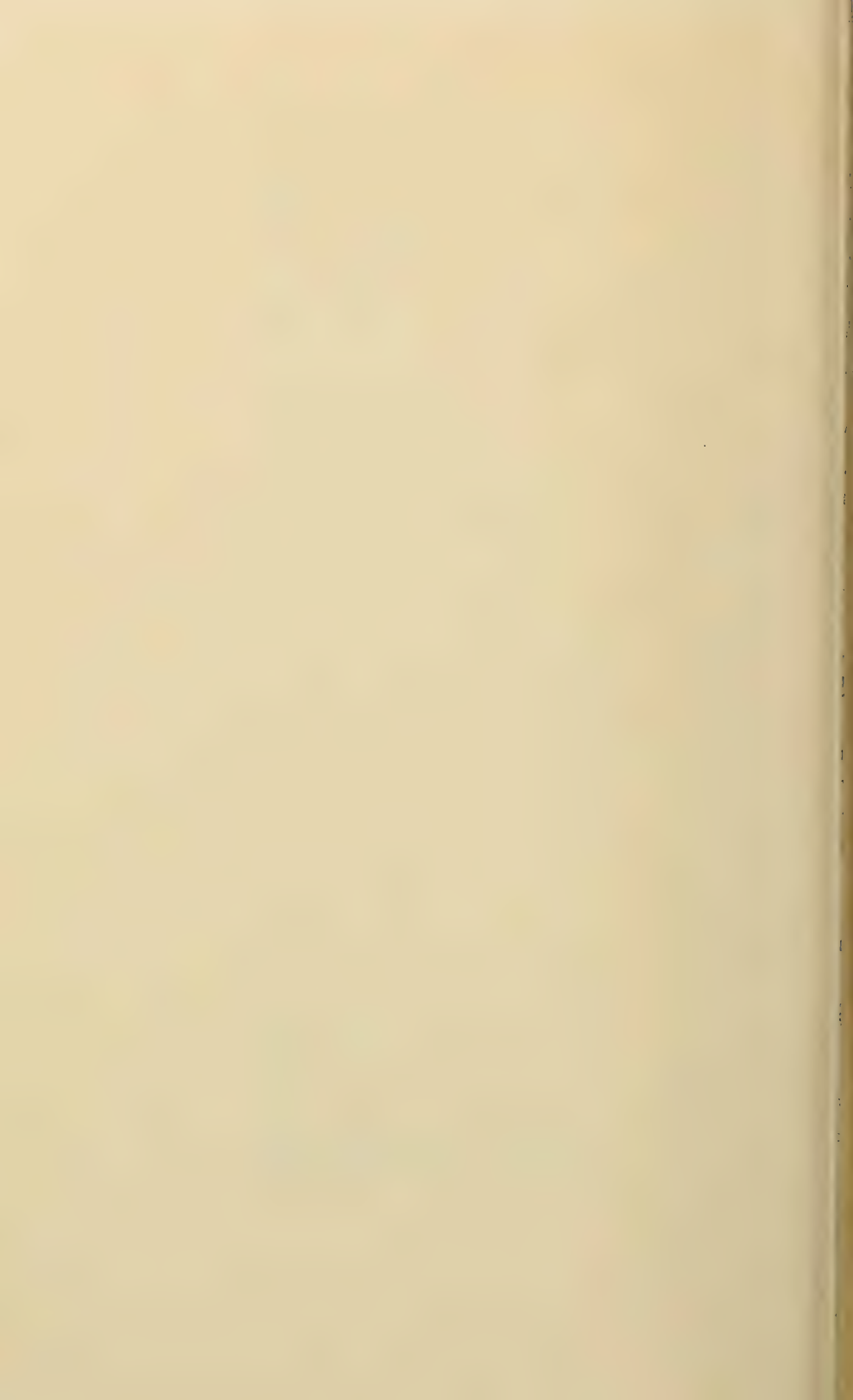
A charter was granted to Kingston-upon-Thames by Henry III. in the fortieth year of his reign, that is to say, a year earlier than the Guildford charter, and in it occurs the following clause : ‘We have also granted to the same men of Kyngeston that they may have their Gild-Merchant in their town as they formerly had it, and as our men of Gildeford have, and that they may use it together with their other liberties and laws and customs which they have in their town aforesaid, as they have used it in our time and in the times of our predecessors Kings of England.’

It would therefore appear that the Gild-Merchant, or local governing body, was in existence in Guildford long before 1255, and was of sufficient importance to be taken as a model when the Kingston charter was granted. It is clear also that in the charter of Henry III. the jurisdiction of the approved men is spoken of as already



THE SOUTH-WEST PROSPECT OF GUILDFORD, 1738.

From the engraving by Buck.



THE CORPORATION OF GUILDFORD

existing, and is not created. The ancient name of Gild-Merchant continued in use to the 18th century, and a summons to the Sergeants-at-Mace is in the author's possession dated May 16th, 1781, by which they are required to give notice to the magistrates and bailiffs of Guildford that a 'Gild-Merchant or Common Hall will be held in the Gild-Hall to select a Town Clerk in the room of Mr. John Martyr, deceased.'

The head of the Gild-Merchant was for some generations called the Seneschal, and by that title he is mentioned in the charter of Edward III. of 1366. Immediately after that date, however, the name of Mayor was assumed, the first person styling himself Mayor being Robert Chesenel in 1377. The title does not, however, officially appear until 1488, when Henry VII. in his charter declared the governing body to be a Corporation under the name and style of the Mayor and Approved Men of Gildeford.

The charter of 1686 styles the Corporation by the title still used, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, and under this Jacobean charter the Corporation continued its existence down to Christmas 1835, when the Municipal Reform Act came into force.

The list of Seneschals governing the town commences in 1361 and extends to 1376. It embraces three names only, Walter Wodeland, who was Seneschal in 1361, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 1371; Peter Semer, who reigned in 1365 and 1370, and Henry Collas, who held the position in 1369, 1372, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

From 1377 commences the list of Mayors, and it extends with but few breaks down to the present time. Between 1377 and 1412 the names of the Mayors have been lost, and again in 1429 and 1430 we have no names in the record, but with those exceptions the list is complete.

The story of the change of government under the Municipal Reform Act is a somewhat interesting one, and the date is sufficiently near to that of our own time for it to be recorded in detail.

This history of the first few days' existence of the Corporation, as fixed in Sch. A., Municipal Reform Act (5 and 6 William IV., cap. 76), is taken from some old papers in the author's possession. The Corporation sitting under the Jacobean charter ceased to exist on Christmas Day, 1835, and the following persons were its officials when it quietly passed out of existence. There were eight Aldermen, from whom the Mayor was annually chosen on the first Monday after St. Michael's Day. The Mayor that year was Mr. John Rand ; the Aldermen—George Waugh, Charles Brooker, William Sparkes, Anthony Lee, Joseph Haydon, James Stedman and William Elkins.

There was then the body of Bailiffs, undefined as to number, but rarely exceeding twenty-five. They formed the grand jury, and a fresh member was added to them every year, selected from qualified persons in the borough, who was called 'the Bailiff,' or 'the acting Bailiff,' and was the ostensible Lord of the Manor.

This Bailiff (poor man !) was expected to feast all the rest of the Corporation at his expense four times during his year of office, or else to pay £50 ; or, if he desired to escape the duties of Bailiff altogether, to pay £90. Russell tells us that, in addition to these four feasts to the Corporation, there was one given by the Mayor to the High Steward, Recorder, Aldermen and Bailiffs about Christmas, a public supper by the Mayor on the evening of his inauguration, and a public dinner in the autumn. Still, however, the list of feasts is incomplete, for, in addition, the Town Clerk annually feasted the Corporation, and the High Steward did the same.

The High Steward in 1835 was Lord Grantley, the Hon. Geo. Chapple Norton was Recorder, and Mr. Joseph Hockley, Town Clerk and Coroner.

Mr. John Chennell was the last Guildford acting Bailiff, Mr. Edward Day Filmer was Hall-warden, and the Bailiffs were thirty in number. Their names were : Wm. Russell, Edmund Elkins, Wm. Hy. Slater, Jno. Matthews, William King, Edw. Day Filmer, Thos. Vincent, Thos. Chennell, Jesse Boxall jun., Thos. Piggott, Jno. Cooke, Jno. Weaver, Geo. Mackrell Nealds, Jno. Palmer, Wm. Elkins, Richard Fathers, William Lockwood, Wm. Taylor, Jno. Leggatt, Henry Piper, Jas. Stovold, Thos. Taunton, Thos. Williams, Thos. Charrott, Benj. K. Finnimore, Geo. Austen, Geo. Foster, William Fibbens, Edmund Nicholls, Jno. Chennell.

The Beadle, Coalmeter and Town Crier was Timothy Lovett. The two Sergeants-at-Mace were Jno. Jeffries and James Hutton, the Tasters of Bread and Ale were John Pannell and John Edward Turner, the Tasters of Fish and Flesh were Richard Jarlett and Hy. Linfield. The police force consisted of two Head Constables, Danl. Marshall jun. and Richard Fathers jun.; two Tything-men for Holy Trinity, Thomas P. Edwards and Henry Fuller; two for St. Mary's, John Kettle and Philip Pickett; and one for S. Nicholas', James Morris; together with the Tasters and Sergeants above referred to, and two Night-Watchmen, Charles Mandeville and Jas. Wilkins.

This, then, was the old chartered Corporation of Guildford that ceased to exist on Christmas Day, 1835.

During the few previous days there had been some excitement in the town in connection with the nomination of candidates for the new Council. A meeting was held, December 14, at the George Inn, and a resolution

passed, 'That it is the undoubted right of every burgesse to select for himself from the burgesse-roll the names of those persons he would wish to be Councillors for the town.' The entire burgesse-roll was then called over, and 54 persons were put in nomination.

A fresh meeting was then called, also at the George Inn, for Tuesday, December 22, and, from the 54 nominated, twelve were selected by slips of paper bearing the name preferred being deposited in a box, and those having the largest number of votes were by this ballot selected. The names selected by this meeting, which included the Liberals of the day, were: Edward Day Filmer, Geo. Waugh, William Chennell, Geo. Foster Charles Booker, Jno. Lockwood, William Mills, Jas Smart, Edmund Nicholls, Thos. Vanner, Benj. K. Finnimore, Jno. Wiblen.

Meantime, the Conservatives also had been at work and upon the same evening a meeting was held at the White Hart under the presidency of Mr. James Stedman which meeting, we are told by the handbill, was: 'numerous and respectable one,' and twelve more burgessees were selected and 'respectfully recommended (without any attempt at dictation) to the support of the burgessees at large.'

Their names were: Joseph Haydon, Joseph Weale, Anthony Lee, Thomas Williams, John Smallpeice (solicitor), Wm. H. Slater, Wm. E. Elkins, John Palmer, John Leggatt, Thomas Taunton, Wm. Taylor, Cassteel Cooper. The election took place December 26, 1835 and twenty-three went to the poll; nine of the Conservative nominees were elected and three of those nominated by the Whigs at the George. The figure were as follows:

Lee (C)	...	212	Taylor (C)	...	18
Haydon (C)	...	200	Williams (C)	...	17

Elkins (C)	...	190	Palmer (C)	...	165
Smallpeice (C)	...	187	Slater (C)...	...	162
Leggatt (C)	...	187	Waugh (L)	...	157
Booker (L)	...	184	Nicholls (L)	...	143

The above were elected.

Finnimore (L)	...	143	Cooper (C)	...	114
Filmer (L)	...	141	Lockwood (L)	...	109
Weale (C)	...	140	Vanner (L)	...	107
Taunton (C)	...	139	Wiblen (L)	...	91
Foster (L)	...	137	Smart (L)	...	87
Chennell (L)	...	128			

The first meeting of the newly constituted Council was on January 1st, 1836, and at this meeting Mr. John Smallpeice was elected Mayor, and the four Aldermen were selected. Messrs. James Stedman and William Sparkes were elected from outside the Council, and Mr. Joseph Haydon from inside, and the newly-elected Mayor was also enrolled as an Alderman.

There were then two vacancies in the Council, and upon Monday, January 4th, 1836, another meeting was held at the White Hart, under the presidency of Alderman Stedman, and Messrs. Joseph Weale and Thomas Taunton, two of the three defeated Conservative candidates, were again nominated and recommended to the burgesses. Mr. Taunton that same evening issued his address, and in it stated that at the previous election he had not done any canvassing, and the support he received encouraged him to again offer himself. The Liberals nominated Mr. Edward D. Filmer and Mr. George Foster, and the election took place on January 8th, 1836, when the result was as follows: Weale 191, Taunton 188 (elected); Filmer 123, Foster 111.

Again the Council met, and elected Joseph Hockley as Town Clerk and as Town Bailiff, or Lord of the Manor,

John Rand as Treasurer, and re-elected the Lord High Steward, Mace-bearers and Beadle. Richard Jarlet was appointed Chief Constable, with eight men : Douglas, Wilson, Furlonger, Punk, Seabrook, Mandeville, Jeffries and Wilkins ; but still there was to be another contested election to make the Council complete.

For the third time the town had all the excitement of a contest, and this one lasted two days, resulting in the election as Auditors of Francis Piggott (C), by 101 votes, and John Lockwood (L), by 67 votes ; and as Assessors John Smallpeice, sadler (C), 96 votes, and John Weaver (L), 69 votes.

All these elections had caused enthusiasm, and some of the old Bailiffs protested in an affidavit that they 'did go in fear of their lives on account of the mob.' Previously, therefore, the old Council swore in special constables. On October 25th lists were got up of persons eligible for this position, and on November 1st, 1835, 24 persons were solemnly sworn in 'for the preservation of the public peace, the protection of the inhabitants, and security of property within the borough.' These constables were called out at each election, and we trust that the poor Bailiffs who went in fear of their lives were duly protected. Lord Grantley's holograph letter, dated from Grantley Hall, Ripon, January 23rd, 1836, and expressing very gracefully his thanks for the honour conferred upon him by the new Council, is in existence, and is an interesting specimen of the florid rhetorical style in vogue at the time.

On November 1st, 1836, took place the first ordinary election of Town Council. Eight candidates came forward : Messrs. Palmer, Slater and King from the Council, and Messrs. Lockwood, Foster, Filmer and Austen from the Liberals, and Williams from the Conservatives. Lockwood was the only Liberal who got in

the election resulting in the return of Messrs. Palmer, Lockwood, King and Slater.

His Majesty at this time appointed four Magistrates—Messrs. William Newland, Charles Booker, Thomas Haydon and George Waugh; and these, with the ex-Mayor, Mr. Smallpeice, and the Mayor for 1836, Anthony Lee, constituted the Borough Bench.

The Magistrates appointed George Shurlock Smallpeice as their first Clerk. John Lockwood having been successful in entering the Council, Edward D. Filmer took his place as Auditor. Two additional policemen were taken on as Day Police—Clark and Wilson. Mr. John Jeggatt jun. and Mr. William Chennell were appointed Corn Porters, Mr. Jos. Hockley sen., Coroner, and his son Lord of the Manor, or Bailiff, and Mr. John Jeffrey became Hall-keeper.

We have now detailed the appointment of every member and officer of the Corporation as it sat under the Municipal Reform Act, save the Recorder; but, as he was appointed by the Crown, the office was not disturbed by the Act, and the occupant of it remained at his post, the last survivor in office of the old government of the town under the charter of James II. With the old Corporation disappeared many old abuses and faults. With them went so many of the feasts, including that provided by the Town Clerk, and possibly the present Town Clerk rejoices thereat.

The Town Hall, or Guild Hall, as it was originally called, is first mentioned in the town records, so far as we have seen, in the thirtieth year of Elizabeth, as in that year the garden at the back of it was enclosed on both sides with stone walls made of flints, which cost ‘the sum of thirty pounds or thereabouts.’

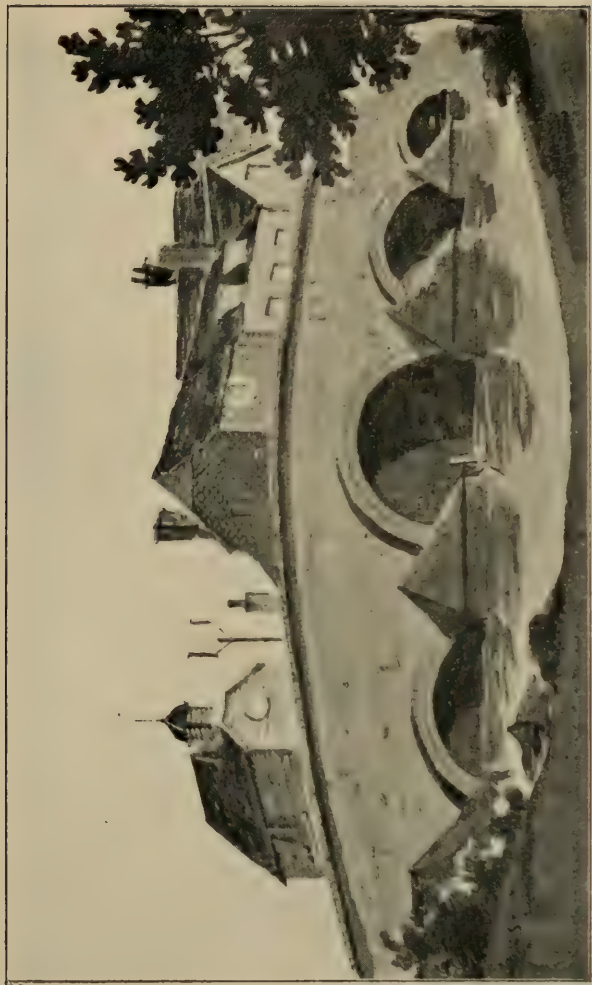
In the following year the hall was enlarged and made longer at the north end, and the ‘queene’s armes and the

armes of this towne sett in the windowe att the north ende.' In 1683 an ancient market-house which stood across the street was taken down, and, according to the town records, the present town hall was then erected.

It is probable, however, that the front only of the existing building was then erected, and part of the old Guild Hall, dating back to the time of Elizabeth, was left in situ. There certainly seems to be evidence that part of the building is a good deal older than the time of Charles II. The list of persons who subscribed towards rebuilding the town hall is still preserved, and it may be interesting to record it.

	£	s.	d.
Arthur Onslow, of West Clandon, Esq.	50	0	0
Richard Onslow, Esq., his eldest Sonne	50	0	0
Morgan Randyll, of Chilworth, Esq. -	20	0	0
John Terry, of Guldeford, Gent. - -	5	0	0
John Holland, of Guldeford, Clerke - -	5	0	0
John Graile, Gent., Mr. of the Free-Sch.	2	0	0
Richard Noble, Gent., of Stoke - - -	1	0	0
George Bendbrick, of Guldeford - - -	3	0	0
John Child, Gent., Mayor of thesd Towne	20	0	0
John Wight, Esq. - - - - -	5	0	0
John Martyr, Gent., one of the Magistrates	20	0	0
Henry Flutter, Gent., one other Magistrate	10	0	0
Edward Ford, Gent., one other Magistrate	20	0	0
John Hill, Gent., one other Magistrate -	10	0	0
Leonard Childe, Gent., Towne-Clerke -	3	0	0
Henry Saunders, one of the Order of Bayliffs within the said Towne - -	5	0	0

229 0



THE TOWN BRIDGE, 1822.
From a water colour drawing by Hassell.

There must have been a hall in the town in which the Gild-Merchant met long before the time of Elizabeth, as in the time of Edward III. we read of the two Parliamentary representatives of the town making a donation of 13s. 4d. for the repair of the 'Gildeford Gild Hall.' We still possess, however, a record of the enlargement just referred to, as Queen Elizabeth's arms even yet appear in the north window over the Mayor's chair.

The very handsome clock which projects from the front of the town hall has a most interesting history connected with it. It was made by a certain John Aylward in 1683, the very year of the erection of the front elevation. Aylward was what is known in Guildford as a foreigner, that is to say he came from another part of England, and desired to set up in his trade in the town, but the permission to do so was refused him by the Gild-Merchant, as he was not a Guildford man.

Unable to pay the necessary fine or obtain admission to the town under other terms, he retired just outside the borough, and erected on the Great Mount (now called Mount Street) a work-shop; where he made the town clock and then presented it to the governing body, and so acquired his freedom. He appears a little later to have settled in the High Street in premises now occupied by Mr. Perkins, and there for many years he worked as a clock-maker. One of his lantern clocks with the usual long pendulum and ropes with weights, and with but one hand, is in the possession of Mr. J. H. Petrie, of Eastbourne, and is signed 'John Aylward in Giltford fecit.' Another somewhat similar clock was at one time at Lumley Castle, but these are the only two examples of Aylward's work known to the author.

It seems probable that the two pictures by Sir Peter Lely, representing Charles II. and James II., which hang

in the town hall, were presented to the town at about the time of the rebuilding.

There is no record of how these two exceedingly fine paintings came into the possession of the Corporation, but in 1674 John, Duke of Lauderdale, was created Earl of Guildford, and, as he is known to have commissioned several pictures from Sir Peter Lely, it seems probable that he presented these works to the town from which he derived his title, that they might be hung in the hall. The similar portraits representing Queen Mary and William III., the former of which has been ascribed by Mr. Whitburn to John Riley, may very possibly have come to the town from another Lord Guildford.

The Duke of Lauderdale died without issue, and Francis North in 1685 succeeded to the barony of Guildford, which had been granted to his father two years before. He is known to have made the town a present of some money, and probably these two pictures accompanied the gift.

In the Council Chamber upstairs there appear over the mantel-piece representations of the two heraldic achievements successively borne by the Corporation of Guildford.

Previous to 1483, the town used the arms of St. Edward Confessor, a blue shield bearing upon it a cross moline between five martlets all in gold. It is not at all clear as to why the town used these arms; whether it was merely to commemorate the residence of the King, or whether it was by special grant, cannot now be told, but there is a record in Heralds' College dated 1410 which mentions the arms of Guildford as those of Edward the Confessor 'used by this Gild-Merchant.' In 1483 the new grant of arms was made, and a very elaborate coat was given to the town. In heraldic language it should thus be described :—

‘Sable, on a mount vert a castle with two towers embattled, on each tower a spire surmounted with a ball from the battlements, between the towers a tower triple-towered all argent and charged with an escutcheon quarterly of France and England ; under the battlements of the castle two roses in fesse or, the port proper, charged on the centre with a key and portcullised both gold, on the mount before the port a lion couchant gardant of the fourth, on each side the castle in fesse a wool-pack of the third paleways, the base of the field water proper.’

It is very seldom that in representations of this coat of arms it is found correctly drawn, although the heraldic description is a very clear and definite one. The coat of arms which in quite recent times has been erected over the new cattle-market is, for example, very inaccurate, and it seems a pity that more care has not been taken in reproductions of this elaborate heraldic achievement to render each detail with accuracy.

The connection of the Sovereign with the town is set forth in the royal escutcheon on the castle, while the integrity of that fortress is also marked by heraldic symbols, but perhaps the most interesting features of the coat of arms to Guildford men are the two wool-packs.

The cloth trade that formerly flourished in Guildford was at one time an exceedingly important industry, so much so that in Richard II.'s time it had the honour of a special Act of Parliament all to itself, an Act having been passed in 1391 relating to the purchase of Guildford cloth ‘before it had been fulled.’ The ancient commercial company known as the Merchants of the Staple possessed extensive powers of what was known as ‘inquisition’ over the cloth trade. Their officers examined the cloth and reported as to its colour, quality and measurement.

According to the ancient minute-book of this company—which still has a corporate existence, ranking as the oldest commercial company in England, possessing a small income, corporate seal, and a wonderful series of minute-books—a certificate was granted to Heralds' College in 1482 to the following effect.

It stated, in somewhat florid language, that the Merchants of the Staple had no fault to find with the Guildford cloth-workers, and that their cloth was 'honest.' The arms, therefore, of the Merchants of the Staple, a woolsack tied at the four corners, were included twice in the grant of arms made to the town in the year following the date of the certificate, and the presence of this woolsack may be taken as a direct compliment from the important body which had the right of examination over the Guildford trade. Some further reference to this cloth industry will be made in a succeeding chapter.

The mantel-piece in the Council Chamber, over which the town arms appear, is a fine piece of chalk carving brought from the ancient Manor House at Stoughton, and the four figures upon it are inscribed :—

Sangvinevs.

Cholericvs.

Phlegmaticvs.

Melancholicvs.

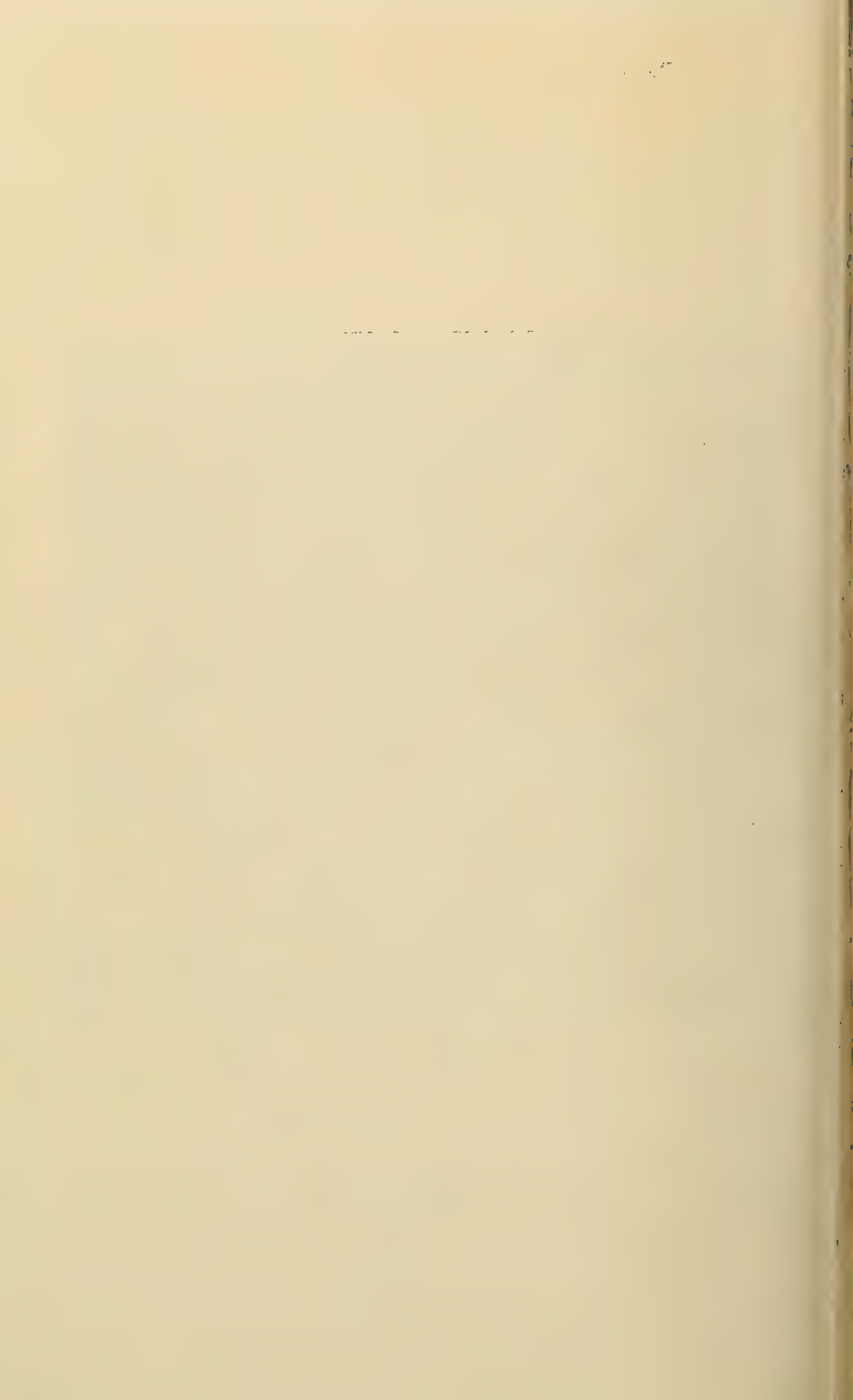
There are three paintings in the room, James I. by Paul van Somer ; Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons during the whole reign of George II., dated 1728 and attributed by Mr. Whitburn to Jonathan Richardson ; and the masterpiece in oil of the celebrated crayon painter John Russell, R.A., who was a native of Guildford, presented by his father, Mayor of the town.

This latter picture represents Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Onslow receiving the Dutch flag after the victory of 1797.



THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
TOWN HALL, GUILDFORD, 1895.

From a photograph by W. Sharvress.



The frieze over the mantel-piece, a long panel, contains a representation of the royal arms, and also the arms of St. Edward Confessor and those granted in 1483. This piece of work was executed in 1686, and it is probable that the circular panels of the royal arms and of Archbishop Abbot that are below it were executed at about the same time.

A silken banner bearing the town arms hangs from a bracket in one of the walls. It was provided by Mr. John Ryde Cooke, who was Mayor in 1849-50. He was present at the first important gathering of provincial Mayors after the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act. The gathering took place at York, and before each Mayor was carried a banner of the arms of his town, and this banner was suspended over his seat at the luncheon. Some years after this gathering, Mr. Cooke presented the banner to his old friend Mr. John Nealds, who, recognising its importance to the Corporation, gave it to the town, and it was hung in the Council Chamber.

The municipal insignia of office are in their way remarkable.

The Mayor's staff is believed to have been a gift from Queen Elizabeth. It is a slender rod of the wood known as campeachy wood, commonly styled logwood. This wood was introduced into Europe from Campeachy soon after the discovery of America, and was used as a dyeing substance. For a while there was very great objection to its use. Very inferior dyes were said to have been produced by its employment, but, as a matter of fact, the reason for its prohibition was very largely the complaints of the English dyers that this foreign wood interfered with their trade.

In the 24th of Henry VIII. an Act of Parliament was passed prohibiting the use of 'Brazil wood' for the dyeing of woollen cloth. In the 23rd of Elizabeth another Act

prohibiting any person from dyeing cloth, kersies, or any other thing with logwood was passed, and the penalty for the offence was a fine to the dyer and the destruction by fire of the material dyed. A third Act of Parliament was passed in the 39th year of Elizabeth, prohibiting the mixing of logwood with woad or other stuff hitherto used for dyeing cloth, and a very heavy penalty was attached to the offence.

It appears that, during the reign of Elizabeth, the rich coloured wood so disliked by the English dyers was reserved for objects of special importance, and there are several references in the rolls of court expenses to royal gifts made of campeachy wood. There is, therefore, considerable evidence in favour of the local tradition that this staff was the gift of the Queen, more especially as the stick happens to be 4 feet 5 inches long, and a piece of campeachy wood of that unusual size was exceedingly rare, and considered to be very precious.

The staff has a silver head $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long and $\frac{13}{16}$ of an inch in diameter upon it, engraved with the town badge of the castle, and the date 1563. Round the head are two bands inscribed 'FAYRE·GOD·DOE·IVSTICE' and 'LOVE·THY·BRETHHER.' A little below the head is a plain silver band with simple rings, and at the bottom a forked ferrule of blackened steel. Although the staff is dated 1563, it is believed not to have come into the possession of the town until 1568, and if that were the case it is probable that the first Mayor who carried the staff was Thomas Smallpeice, a member of that ancient family which gave a Mayor to Guildford in 1503, and still has representatives in the place.

The four bronze measures, bushel, gallon, quart and pint, belonging to the town, are dated 1602, and are believed to have been also the gift of Queen Elizabeth. They have her initials upon them. Guildford had been



THE CORPORATION PLATE.

From a photograph by W. Shawcross.

one of the few towns specially named to have custody of standard weights and measures in England. This privilege appears in an Act of Parliament passed in the 14th year of Edward III., and it was emphasized in an Act of the 11th year of Henry VII., while during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth the old measures in use were called in and the Sovereign presented to the towns mentioned in the Act of Parliament copies in bronze of the standard measures. It was at this time that both Guildford and Winchester acquired these bronze measures.

Two other measures still belong to the town which date from about the same period. They are the small copper bowls with handles, by which the town toll or corn was taken from each sack deposited for sale in the corn market, and they continued in use until the time of the abolition of this toll a few years ago.

The most important treasure, however, possessed by the town, is the Small silver mace. It is a piece of fifteenth century silver work, probably belonging to 1489, when Henry VII. granted his charter to the Corporation. There are nearly seven hundred maces in England, but out of this number there are but twelve towns possessing those of fifteenth century work. Of the twelve, only two towns possess large maces, the other ten having very little short maces, which have more the appearance of college pokers or sergeants' maces.

Of the two towns with large fifteenth century maces, only one, the Guildford one, is entirely of silver, the other, that of Hedon, being partly of iron. The Hedon mace measures 2 feet 1 inch in length, the Guildford one, 2 feet $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and it is therefore the only large silver mace of the fifteenth century in the United Kingdom. It stands alone in three other respects. It is the only fifteenth century mace yet preserving the

translucent enamel in the head, the only one with the original crested crown, and the only one with the original maker's mark, three trefoils, two and one. This mace therefore stands proudly at the very head of the list of maces of the United Kingdom.

There are other special features which make this mace interesting.

The original war maces, used by ecclesiastics and high officials as weapons of offence, bore flanges, plain and solid, and their effect when used by a powerful man upon the skull of an opponent was serious and often fatal.

Such maces were specially used by those who were prevented by custom from drawing a sword to shed man's blood, but who did not object to crushing in the skull of an enemy with a mace, and were also carried by the body-guard to protect royalty and high officials from the much dreaded attacks of the Saracen assassins.

In the fifteenth century a change commenced in the ornamentation of these maces, a broad button being placed at the bottom of the mace, on which was engraved the royal arms or the crest of the great noble in whose procession the war mace was carried and for whose defence it was made. Then gradually was introduced the habit of reversing the mace in time of peace or at a corporation or civic ceremony, and gradually the end upon which the royal arms appeared was more and more ornamented, and became the more important end, and the flanges of defence were relegated to the lower end.

The mace was the ornament or sign of the person who held a special portion of royal authority, or was to a certain extent the representative of royalty, or of the chief executive power, and therefore the early maces bore the royal arms and the later ones more and more ornamented the end on which were these arms, and gradually surrounded it by cresting, coronet, or crown.

In time the flanges of defence became smaller and smaller, and eventually disappeared altogether, and the more modern mace is the result, such as the great seventeenth century mace at Guildford.

The Guildford mace is, except the iron one of Hedon, the oldest in the kingdom of the kind made to be carried with the royal arms upwards, as is clearly shown by the cresting of leaves, the gilt lions, and the silver ostrich feathers around its head, but it retains its flanges, which are plain, substantial, and characteristic, and consequently just marks the period of about 1480, when the war mace and sergeant's mace were gradually changing into the civic mace, which was developing from them in steady clear evolution.

The shaft of the mace is straight and plain, and has one large and two smaller bosses, with a capital and a base, all quite simple and without pattern, dividing it into five sections. It terminates in eight open-work flanges. These flanges, originally the most important portion of the mace, are in position at the base of the shaft. The Hedon mace has the flanges, as originally, in iron, the Stratford one has the flanges of very ornate form, but the Guildford one has them of plain and simple form, much more nearly approaching in character the original serviceable flanges, and open in work in order to give the simplest species of ornamentation.

The head of the mace is supported by three lions rampant and by three ostrich feathers, and has a coronal of fleurs-de-lys, with alternate roses and fleurs below.

Upon the head is a narrow band chased in low relief with alternate crosses and fleurs-de-lys, surmounted by a pierced cresting of twenty-two strawberry leaves. In the centre of the top of the head is a medallion, on which is engraved the royal arms, France modern and England quarterly crowned, between two ostrich feathers.

The arms are enamelled on a field of a very beautiful translucent green enamel, a portion of which has dropped out, and which is of the very highest possible rarity in good condition.

Round the medallion is a beautiful band in low relief of crosses and fleurs-de-lys alternately.

The mace of Stratford-on-Avon possesses two similar ostrich feathers on either side of the arms.

The mace has been re-gilt, and by apparently the same workman who carried out similar work to the great mace. It is entirely of silver, of great purity, and is gilt in all portions, save the supporting feathers, base, ornaments.

The arches, orb, and cross surmounting the head are of a much later date than the remainder of the mace, and were very possibly added in the time of the Stuarts. In very many ways the mace closely resembles that of Hedon, the oldest civic mace now remaining in England, and the flanges, which in the great mace are merely ornaments, are in this mace of special importance, size, and character.

Both maces were exhibited at the Society of Antiquaries on June 21, 1888, and were selected as the typical maces for the kingdom in the Winter Exhibition of Old Masters and Goldsmiths' Work at the Royal Academy in 1896.

The Great mace measures $34\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length, and is therefore larger than the majority of maces from county towns, but is exceeded in size by many city maces. The stem is of silver gilt, and of gadroon pattern, having two large bosses and terminated by a heavy base. Upon the stem, about seven inches from the base, are engraved the Howard arms in a panel, and above it are a series of thistles, which the engraver has strangely engraved upside down. This eccentricity of

engraving is very unusual, and is evidently not an error, as every thistle is so engraved, although the coat of arms is correctly placed.

The head of the mace is of copper gilt, and has a series of ornaments placed upon it, which are of silver, and left in the natural colour of the metal. They consist of an imperial crown, surmounting a Tudor rose, thistle, harp, and fleur-de-lys, with alternate winged caryatides between.

The foot knop is embossed with large silver lobes.

The coronal is composed of alternate cross, moline, and fleur-de-lys, and has an arched crown over it, with silver beads on the arches, surmounted by an orb and cross.

Upon the head are engraved the royal arms of the Stuart sovereigns, and below the head are four ornamental flanges. The external work over the copper head, including the arches and orb, is all of silver; and an unusual feature is the fact that the ornaments, orb and cross, pearls, &c., are left in the colour of the metal, whereas the remaining portion is gilt. In the great majority of maces this order was reversed, or else the whole was either silver or gilt.

This mace was presented to the town by the Right Honourable Henry Howard, afterwards Duke of Norfolk, but then High Steward of the Borough, and the following is the entry in the town books respecting it :

Memorand. that on the 24th December in the year of our Lord 1663 was presented to the Mayor and approved men of the Towne a large & Rich Mace from the Right Honourable Henry Howard of Norfolk our Greate and Noble High Steward by the hands of Sir Richard Onslow Knight one of the Burgesses of this Towne now serving in

Parliament. Out of a Due sence whereof and in testimony of His Honour's greate Bounty and our gratitude we have caused it to be entered amongst our Records together with the letter of thanks returned to His Honour by the Mayor and approved men of this Towne that the memory of soe munificent and Noble a Benefactor may remain upon Record to all posteritye.

THE COPYE OF THE LETTER.

Right Honourable,

We should appear most unworthy the greate favour you have soe conferred upon this town, in bestowing upon us so rich and noble a mark of honour, if we should not laye ourselves at your feet in acknowledgement of so high a favour. It is indeed, Sir, a present worthy of your large Hart, which we doo with all thankfulness acknowledge, and shall endeavour to express it by rendering all due obedience to your commands and in all our dealings of approving ourselves.

Sir, your Honour's most obliged and most humble servants.

The mace does not bear any hall-mark nor any maker's marks upon any portion of it, and it has been re-gilt.

The Mayor's gold chain of office was given to the town in 1673, by Arthur Onslow, Esq., then High Steward, as appears by the following entry in the borough records :

Memorand. that on the third day of March in the six & Twentyeth year of the reigne of our most gracious Soverayne King Charles the second King of England etc.

1673. Arthur Onslow of West Clandon in the County of Surrey Esquire High Steward of this towne did then give to the Mayor and approved men of the sayd Towne and their successors a faire chayne of Gold, Double linked with a medall of massey Gold; whereon his Majesties Armes are curiously engraven and on the reverse the Armes of the said Mr. Onslow. In token of our gratitude and memory whereof we have caused this entry among our Records. *Optima beneficiorum custus est ipsa memoria beneficiorum.*

The chain is composed of a double series of simple links, and has suspended from it a large oval medallion, 3 inches long, engraved on one side with the royal arms of Charles II. within the Garter and crowned, with the King's initials, also crowned, on either side. The reverse bears a shield of the donor's arms with the date MDCLXXIII above, surrounded by a band inscribed 'Semper Fidelis | Festina lente' and '*Ex dono Arthuri Onslow Armigeri*' all within a border of laurel leaves.

The four Aldermen wear chains having a suspended tablet of the town arms, all of silver. These are provided at their own cost.

The town records give the following entry as to them :

1836. Jan. 1.

Resolved that the Aldermen and Councillors shall provide themselves with and wear at meetings and public occasions the costume that has been customarily worn by the Bailiffs of the Borough, with the exception that the Aldermen do provide and wear a silver chain and medal each of the same description.

The common seal, which is apparently of early seventeenth century date, is a round silver one, $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch in diameter, bearing a shield of the town arms with the legend :

+ SIGILLVM · BVRGI · ET · VILLE · DE ·
GVLDEFORDE.

There is also an oval brass seal, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long, now disused, bearing an embattled gateway flanked by two domed towers, and surmounted by a third domed tower, with a key erect within the portal. Legend :

SIGILLVM · BVRGI · ET · VILLE · DE · GVLDEFORDE.

This seal is of late sixteenth century date.

The rose water bason and ewer were bequeathed to the Corporation by John Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich, 1560—1574-5, who was a native of Guildford. The bason is $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, of silver, and has a repoussé centre with wreaths of flowers, &c., enclosing an enamelled shield of the arms of the See of Norwich impaling those of Parkhurst. On the rim are six bosses with medallion centres containing classical heads. Hall-marks : Antwerp, with the date-letter **B**, and, for the maker, a pelican in her piety. The ewer is jug-shaped on a foot, with a lid, handle and spout, relieved by handsome ribs and chasing. It also bears the Parkhurst arms. Hall-marks : London, 1567-8 (with pellet) ; maker's mark, a hand holding a hammer.

The earlier of the tankards is of silver-gilt, 8 inches high, with plain straight sides, and domed lid with rayed thumb-piece. Its weight is $21\cdot7\frac{1}{2}$. It is inscribed :
'THOMAS 1584
BAKER *This Stoup new Made 1602.*' Hall-marks : London, 1602-3 ; maker's mark, a harp between the initials LM (?). Thomas Baker was Mayor of Guildford in 1565, 1575 and 1580.

The other tankard is of the same pattern, but somewhat taller. Its weight is 22·15 oz. It bears the arms of the Haberdashers' Company, with the name *Iohn Austen* and the date 1620.

The two cups are 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches high, and of the usual type, with tall thin baluster stems and plain round feet. They are dated, and bear the same arms, &c., as the second tankard. Their weights are 13·3 and 13·6 oz. Both the tankard and the cups bear the London hall-marks for 1619-20, and, for the maker, HB conjoined in a shaped shield with a small saltire in base.

In the town records, under date 28 Henry VIII., an order is recorded as follows :

Ordered that the Bailiffes of the town do accompany the Maior on solemn and public occasions and do wear gownes and in default be fined eightpence for each offence.

In the 41st and again in the 45th of Elizabeth an order was made for

The mayor of Guildford for the time being, or his deputy in his absence, at church and at court to wear his gowne, accompanied by two or more of his brethren, and his officers, the sergeants with maces carried before him.

This order was confirmed 16 Charles II. and 2 Anne, when it was ordained that the gowns be of colour such as 'citizens are accustomed to wear, unless they be of any degree in the universities or belonging to any inn of court or chancery or great guild, then in that case they shall wear gowns properly belonging to their degrees or positions.'

The Mayor now also wears a cocked hat of black, with a badge of the town arms on it. The Councillors

wear black cloth gowns, frogged and richly ornamented with velvet and trimmings. The Recorder wears a black silk gown and bands, and the Town Clerk a black cloth gown. The Treasurer has no official garb, but the Clerk of the Peace wears a black stuff gown and bands. The Mace-bearers also wear black gowns.

As to these gowns there is the following entry in the town records :

1703. Former orders as to the wearing of gowns confirmed and ordered further that the Recorder and Town Clerk do provide themselves with proper gowns for wear when they shall accompany the Mayor upon solemn occasions.

In 1686 it is recorded that on October 3rd 'the mayor and aldermen first wore scarlet gowns.'

This was in accordance with the provisions of the charter of James II., dated 15th of April, 1686, which states :

That it shall and may be lawful for the Maior and Aldermen of the said towne on all holidays convocations public meetings and solemnities for their greater ornament and honour to wear gownes made of scarlet cloth.

The privilege was granted by James II. 'as a mark of his special and peculiar affection' for the town.

Recently there has been a suggestion on the part of a certain Radical member of the Town Council that the wearing of gowns by the Corporation should be discontinued, but in a letter to the newspapers the author pointed out that, whenever the question of the disuse of the gowns comes to be really seriously considered, it must be borne in mind that there is not only a sentimental side to the question, but one of very grave importance.

The privilege which Guildford people value so highly of exemption from the juries of the assizes, and from all juries outside the town limits, 'if summoned against their will,' stands or falls by the same series of charters as the privilege as to wearing the gowns, and if Guildford tampers with the privileges granted by charter, or allows them to fall into disuse by neglect or indifference, it may some day find that in losing one privilege, which does not seem of great importance, the town may lose another which is of vast importance to it.

Let it be once understood in high circles that Guildford cares nothing for a privilege made as a special mark of Royal favour, and given to very few towns in the kingdom, and it may speedily be thought that the time has come for the abrogation of an old charter pronounced to be of such small importance, and with it may go one of the great privileges which the inhabitants of Guildford possess.

'It seemed desirable to warn the Corporation, very seriously, of the danger of interfering with privileges granted in the seventeenth century, and so breaking the bonds which unite us to our ancestors, and remind us of rights hardly won, and of advantages which it cost those of olden time great efforts to obtain, and under which we live and enjoy our citizenship.'

The letter just referred to went on to state as follows :

'The question of the gowns may appear to be a small one, but no right that has been handed down from remote antiquity is of small importance. And be it remembered that these links with the past make life picturesque, and remind us of the "making of the English people," and they are subjects of the very keenest interest to our brethren over the seas who, in

America especially, would give all they possess could they but have the signs of great antiquity which belong to us, and which often we think of so little importance.

One of the officials who has always been connected with the Corporation is the Beadle.

His title is a quaint and curious one, and his name goes back to Anglo-Saxon times ; goes back 900 to 1,000 years. He was simply a messenger, a forerunner, one who announces, and the word 'beadle' owns to the same root that gives us 'bid' and 'bode,' the Anglo-Saxon *beddan*, to command. The old English spelling of the word was 'bedel,' and this use still survives in the name of similar officials at the Universities. Few words have been so permanent in their hold on Europe. In German we have *büttel* ; Danish, *beal* ; French, *badel*, *bedel*, *bedeaux* ; Spanish and Portuguese, *bedel* ; Italian, *bidello* ; Latin, *bedellus*.

In almost all cases the official so called was the summoner, the messenger, the crier, and had the subordinate offices of the chastisement of petty offenders, the preservation of order in church, the citing of persons to appear and answer, and the duty of preceding as forerunner and announcer of all public processions. His duty was, in short, to *bid* people do this or that, as representing a certain corporate dignity.

In Guildford there has always existed such an officer as long as there was any supreme body requiring to give instructions. As early as in 1256, in the guild records, he is called sometimes the 'marshal,' and sometimes the 'beadle,' and with two cupbearers he attended the Mayor when he received the fealty of the Guild Merchant of Kingston. In 1369 we hear of the Bailiff, or Maior, attended by his marshal or beadle, his cupbearers and four hall-wardens, going to Winchester triennially to acknowledge its Corporation as its mother

by affiliation, as Kingston on its part annually acknowledged Guildford. In the Tudor times he collected toll from those outside the guild, and the dues of the town, and he served the chief magistrate at the feast and preceded him to church on St. Blaise's Day.

In Stuart times he was called a bedel, and he summoned juries, delivered summonses to the meetings of the guild, and attended on all solemn occasions the old Corporation both to church and on occasions of dignity. Down to 1800 he continued a servant of the Gild-Merchant, the messenger of the body, and the one who *bid* the people take notice that those whom they had selected to rule over them were making an official appearance.

Since 1800 he has been attached to the successor of the Gild-Merchant, the Corporation. His duties when the Corporation attended church are thus declared by a Guildford man in 1768: 'We did fear, as boys, the approach of Master Beadle, for if we did not remove ourselves as quickly as he would we have done when Mr. Maier did enter the church, he had a habit of using upon our short clothes the butt-end of his gold staff with vigour, and upon one occasion in Upper Church he did break it in twain by such use. He was particularly observant of our manner of behaviour in church, and we did cause him some trouble, I wit, by our light habits, but we were but boys, and the sermons were long and tedious.'

His duties nowadays do *not* embrace the chastisement of children in church, nor that of flogging criminals at the cart-tail, nor of ducking scolds, nor of imprisoning persons in either stocks or pillory, and announcing their crime and its punishment, as was the case in olden times. The duties now are of an ornamental and dignified character, and the Beadle, as messenger, fore-

runner, and summoner to Mr. Mayor, is a picturesque survival of a past use, and his old offices are filled by a multiplicity of officials. His stipend, however, has also passed from the serious to the ornamental stage, and £1 per annum is all he costs the Corporation, and perhaps an occasional coat or hat.

It may be of interest while we are considering the Town Hall and the Government of the place to refer to the question of the Parliamentary elections. The Borough of Guildford has sent members to Parliament ever since the 23rd of Edward I., 1291, when Andrew Le Conestable and John Nichole represented the Borough at the Parliament at Westminster.

The privileges of the men of Guildford from the Norman Conquest were carefully safeguarded. King William is said to have had a hundred and seventy-five men in the town, and they were under the government of the King's Reeve, and had to pay considerable aid to the King. In 1172, the aid of the town was unpaid by reason of the poverty of the place, but in 1256 the charter of Henry III. grants that the good men of Guildford and their heirs should not be arrested for any debt for which they were not pledges, unless the debtor should be of their town, and the object of this grant was to secure the men of Guildford from liability to any debts but their own and those of others for whom they had become pledge, and who, as inhabitant householders within their borough, must have had property in it by which they could be summoned and made responsible.

The charter thus confined the liability of the men of Guildford to the debts of those who were enrolled in their commonalty, and gave the town a personal responsibility apart from that of any other place. In 1354 it appears from the pleas before the Barons of the Ex-

chequer that the sub-collectors of the King's tenth were charged with partiality and with having imposed the taxes unequally upon the people of Guildford, it being alleged that those charges should be assessed proportionately upon all the men of the place. This again implies that there was an inner section of people in Guildford specially safeguarded by reason either of their freedom or their freeholds.

In 1460, a declaration was made that the burgesses who elected the Member were 'the men of Guildford commorant and resiant there.' We have little evidence as to who were the burgesses who elected the Member from that time until 1689, when the question again came into dispute before the House of Commons whether the right of election was only in the freemen and freeholders resiant, paying scot and lot, or generally in them, whether they paid scot and lot or not. In the course of the inquiry it appeared in evidence that an order was to be read in the church for all freemen to come to the election, and it was clear that only the freemen were entitled to the privilege, villains, females, and ecclesiastics not being entitled to enjoy it.

The Committee of the House resolved 'that the right was only in the freemen and freeholders of the town paying scot and lot, resiant in the same,' and in this decision of the House of Commons the first mention of freeholders as such in connection with Guildford appears.

The decision was resented in the town, as the possession of a freehold had never been necessary to make the person a freeman. It was a clear and incontestable proof that he was free, but the possession of the freehold was not his claim to burgess-ship, and his right to the privilege consisted in his freedom, in his residence, and in his payment of scot and lot. A little variation in the arrangement for elections took place in 1710, when

it was for the first time agreed by the House of Commons that a person who had served seven years as an apprentice to a freeman in Guildford was *ipso facto* a freeman, but a curious fact came out in the evidence.

It was said that two persons were not rated 'in the parish of Trinity, Guildford,' where they resided, because that parish would not receive them as inhabitants, but they were rated where they came from, and they were therefore not householders paying scot and lot. The reason for this statement was that the governing body of Guildford insisted upon its power of rejecting whom it thought fit, a power which we have already seen exercised with regard to John Aylward, and it was said that these two persons, who had no right by birth or by service, could not be made free or acknowledged as inhabitant householders paying scot and lot, save by the Gild-Merchant, and that such Gild-Merchant could not be forced to grant the privilege.

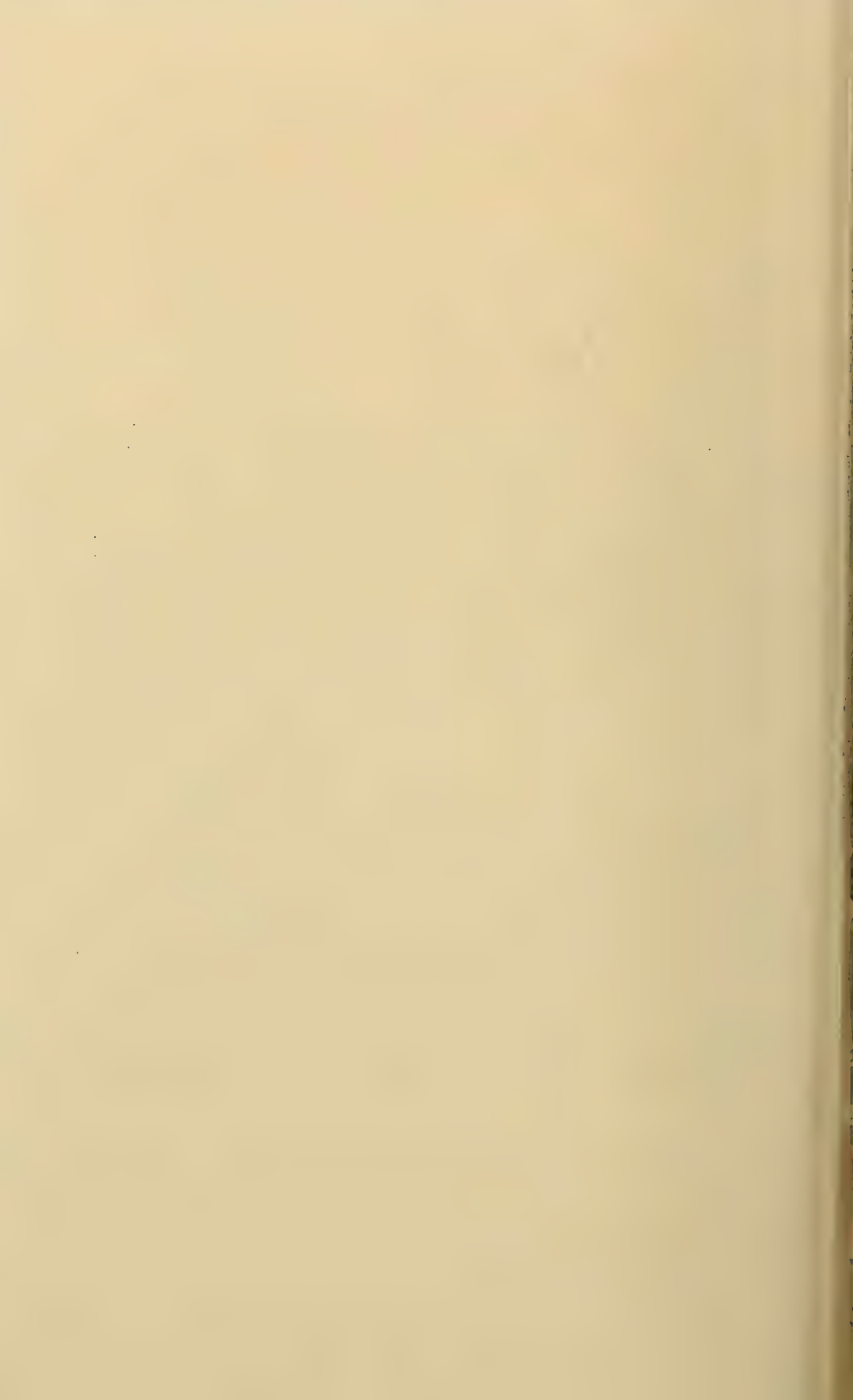
It is interesting that the question of inhabitancy, upon which the whole system of the law of election now rests, should first have been raised in Guildford, and it is also a curious fact that this same evidence before the House of Commons states that in Guildford the laws of primogeniture had been applied to the laws of freedom, and that although freedom by birth actually extended to all children, males for themselves and females for their husbands, yet by a curious perversion in this town it had been limited only to the eldest son.

Yet a third fact came out in the evidence, and that was that fines were paid to the town by those not entitled by birth or service to the freedom, who yet desired to reside in the town, and the House of Commons ruled that, as this implied a purchase of the freedom, it was contrary to law, and ought to be suppressed.



THE BOROUGH OF GUILDFORD IN 1739.

From the engraved Ichnography.



Once again the right of election came before the House, and this was in 1713, and it was then decided that freemen having no right to freedom by birth or service must be admitted by the consent of the majority of the Mayor and approved men.

The right of election in the inhabitants paying scot and lot continued down to the time of the first Reform Bill, which abolished the freeman's vote, but the town continued to return two members of Parliament elected in the ordinary way until 1868, when one member was taken away. By one member only the town was then represented until 1885, when under an Act for redistributing the seats the Borough lost its ancient privilege and was merged into the newly-formed Guildford division of the county.

We have therefore in Guildford one uniform history from the earliest period down almost to the present time with regard to the right of returning members of Parliament, vested in the persons who bore the burden and shared the privileges of the place, and who were styled by the Committee of the House in the time of James I. 'the inhabitant householders commorant and resiant, paying scot and lot.'

CHAPTER III

GUILDFORD MONEY

AS far back as in 978, in the time of Ethelred II., Guildford was the seat of a Royal Mint, and such mintage continued with intervals down to the time of William II., 1100, and was at its greatest importance in the time of St. Edward the Confessor.

One of the interesting features of the Guildford Mint is the fact that the earliest coins bear the name of DUNSTAN upon them, and that there is little doubt that this name refers to the well-known Archbishop of Canterbury of that name, an eminent worker in metals, and to whom artificers of that early time were largely indebted for examples and instruction in forging, die-sinking, engraving, and the striking of coins.

St. Dunstan on one occasion is said to have visited this town with Ethelred II., and possibly by his work and action originated the Guildford Mint. Coins bearing his name are clearly conspicuous by a finer and more artistic finish, and by the unmistakable touch of a cultivated hand.

It is believed that the moneyer, as the master of the mint was called in those times, travelled about with the King, and hence his name appears on the coins which were struck at different places. Of the coins struck at Guildford by Ethelred II. there are several varieties, and they bear the names of three moneyers, DUNSTAN, DUNGILD, and LEOFOLD. The name of the latter moneyer also appears on Exeter coins. The name of the town on this series is abbreviated to GYLD.

There are eight coins known of the time of Cnut (1016-1035), and six of them bear the name of a moneyer BLACAMAN, spelt on one coin BACAMAN by the accidental omission, it is supposed, of the letter L on the first die. The other two moneyers whose names appear in this reign are SNEADINE and WULFSIG, and the name of the town appears in the various abbreviated forms of GY, GYL, GYLD, and GOLD.

BLACAMAN is the moneyer again in the next reign, that of Harthacnut (1039-1042), and the same moneyer has his name on coins issued in that reign in Nottingham, then called Snotingaham. The name of the town in the coins of Harthacnut is abbreviated to GIL.

In the time of St. Edward Confessor (1042-1066), there was a long series of coins issued at Guildford, and the King often sojourned in the town, it being one of his favourite places of residence. The coins were of several varieties, issued at different periods of the King's reign, and the names of the moneyers are also various. BLACAMAN is the chief, but his name is sometimes spelt BLAEMAN, sometimes BLAEEMAN, and sometimes BLAEMAN. Another moneyer is ÆELFRIC, and on his coins the name of the town is spelt as closely as it ever came on this series to its present spelling. It reads GILDEFOR. ÆELFRIC'S name appears once as ALFRIL. There is also a moneyer named ALDIE, but the inscription on the coin which he issued for the King is put upside down and reversed, and therefore the penny is not always recognised as one issued in Guildford.

The last moneyer who can be named in this reign is ELFÐINE, and his name comes towards the close of the reign of St. Edward, and also is to be found on the

coins which the King issued at Chichester, Cambridge, Southampton, Thetford, Wilton, Worcester, Ipswich, and London, showing that ELFDINE moved about with the monarch of England to a great many places where there were opportunities for striking coins. The name of the town in the reign of St. Edward was abbreviated in many different ways. GILDEFOR has already been mentioned, and other coins read GY, GIL, GYLDEOR, GILDE, GILDEFO, GU, GYL, GYLD, and GLDE. The name of the King usually reads EADWARD REX ANGLOR or ANGLO.

In the time of Harold II. (1066-1066) we have another moneyer appearing—one LEOFOLD—and the name of the town is put as GILDI.

In the time of William I. (1066-1087) there are but two varieties known of coins issued at Guildford, and one of them on which the name of the town reads GUILDF is in such poor condition—detrited, as coin collectors call it—that the name of the moneyer cannot be read. This rare coin is in the Swedish collection. The other, which is at the British Museum, reads SERIL, and the name of the town is put as GILDFRD.

SERIE appears in the next reign, that of William II. (1087-1100), and then the name of the town is given as GILDFRD again, while there are three other moneyers whose names appear ÆELFRIC, ERIC and GODDINE, the abbreviated name of the town reading GDE, GLDE and GILLD respectively.

All these coins were, of course, silver pennies weighing from 20 to 27 grains apiece. There were no other coins at that time in use. Some of those issued by St. Edward Confessor were of what is called the sovereign type, in which the King is to be seen at full length seated in a chair of state, but many of them

give only his face, executed in very rough and archaic fashion, while on the reverse of the coin often appeared the arms of the monarch already mentioned on page 20.

Some of those issued by William I. bear his well-known inscription of PAXS. Their metal consisted of 110z. 2dwts. fine silver to 18dwts. of alloy. This mixture was called the old standard, and is the same which, after some variation under Henry VIII. and Edward VI., was finally re-established by Queen Elizabeth, and has continued in use down to the present day—a period of over nine hundred years. The coins are supposed to have been struck in a collar, for they are uniformly round, and those of William I. are as perfectly cylindrical in a column as such a column would be if composed of shillings of the present day.

Many of the coins have been found in this neighbourhood, although not very lately, but all coins struck at Guildford are considered as rarities by the collector, and the mints both at this town and at Godalming, where similar coins were struck but in even fewer numbers, must have been but small, as so very few specimens of their issue now remain. They, however, afford a most interesting proof of the connection of the Anglo-Saxon Kings with this town, which was part of their patrimony and estate, at which they resided with their Courts, and where from time to time they struck their coins.

Forming a somewhat interesting link between this local coinage and the later minor currency of tokens comes the series of lead seals that were attached to the cloth made in the town.

These seals were affixed to the piece of cloth as a sort of maker's mark or guarantee of quality, but afterwards were detached and used in the transaction of sale or purchase as representing the cloth, and thus they constituted an actual token currency. Quantities of

cloth often changed hands by the interchange of these tokens without the material itself being seen in the transaction, and at length the popular habit became the excuse for fraud, and Acts of Parliament were passed, rendering it illegal for purchases to be made of cloth unless the seal or bulla was attached to each piece of the material.

There is an allusion by Bishop Parkhurst, a native of Guildford, in one of the Zurich letters, published by the Parker Society, to some cloth which he sent for, where he complained that the seal had been removed, and the guarantee of quality thus lost. Very many of these lead seals have been found in Guildford. They were as a rule in two halves, and were joined together on the piece of cloth by a blow from a hammer.

It is an interesting fact that the same class of lead seal is still affixed in the North of England to lengths of baize and felt, in much the same way, although the seals in use at the present time are far larger than were the old Guildford ones, the latter seldom exceeding the size of a farthing. The seals bear upon them various makers' marks, one only having upon it a name. This seal, which was dug up in Lea-pale Road in the parish of Stoke, is believed to belong to the fourteenth century, and has upon it the following legend: 'SIGIL WODEL ON STOK,' which may be read as 'the seal of Wode or Wodel in Stoke.' The use of these lead tokens continued down to the time of James I.

The next currency connected with the town is that of the seventeenth century tokens. They were issued for necessary change, inasmuch as there was no legalised small change save the regal farthings of James I. and Charles I., which were debased coinage, forced upon the people to their great abhorrence.

The popular issue of tokens by towns and tradesmen

originated therefore in a national necessity, and they continued current until that necessity was supplied. The earliest of these tokens were issued in 1648, and they were issued all over the country by towns in their corporate capacity, and by about twenty thousand persons engaged in all departments of trade. They comprised halfpence and farthings, and passed current in the districts in which their issuers were known.

At first a great convenience in the days when the smallest regal coinage was silver, they eventually became a nuisance, and, being only repayable, strictly speaking, at the office or shop of the issuer, they were deemed inconvenient, abolished by royal proclamation, and regal currency took their place. Their history sheds a great deal of light upon the manners and customs of the times. In Guildford the town issued these tokens, and a number of traders followed suit. The following is the list of all the issues that are known to the author. The letters O and R refer to the obverse and reverse side of the token, the mark = signifies that that which follows is in the field or central part of the token, and the figures $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ show the denomination of the piece, whether halfpenny or farthing.

O. GVILDFORD . 1668 = A castle between two wool-sacks, in base a lion couchant ; the arms of the Borough of Guildford.

R. F . M . F . S . 1668 = A cross patonce, between five martlets ; the arms of St. Edward the Confessor

$\frac{1}{4}$



Variety of above, same as described, except that the cross on the shield of the reverse is smaller, and the castle on the obverse larger. $\frac{1}{4}$

The initials are probably those of the overseers.

O. IOHN . BROWNE = A woolsack.

R. IN . GILFORD . 1656 = A castle. $\frac{1}{4}$

John Browne was elected Bailiff of the town in 1662, in room of another discharged.

O. SIMON . CRANE = A woolsack.

R. IN . GILFORD . 1656 = A castle. $\frac{1}{4}$



This man was a grocer in the High Street, and as a lad was a Guildford town apprentice, being noted in the town books as having served his father, also a grocer, 'seven full years.' He was made a Justice of the Peace in 1652, and in the same year was elected Mayor of the town.

The following passage occurs in the parish register of Holy Trinity :

'I do approve of the eleccion of Caleb Cooper to bee Register for the marriages, etc., of the parish of Trinity in Guldeford, September 22, 1653.

'SYMON CRANE, Maior.'

He resided in St. Mary's parish, and was evidently a person of some property, as, in the Roll of the Subsidy granted to Charles I. in Parliament in 1640, we read :

'Symon Crane in goods iij £ ; the assessment being at the rate of

'Lands paid viijs. }
'Goods paid vs. iij d . } in every pound.'

He was buried November 29, 1658.

O. CHARLES . HANBY = A woolsack.

R. IN . GILFORD . 1662 = A castle.

$\frac{1}{4}$



The parish book states that Charles Handby was—
'Elected Constable for St. Mary's, Dec. 31, 1670.'

Also :

'Charles Hanbey was discharged from being Tythingman, John Burt being appointed in his room, Sept. 1, 1662 (14 Car. II).'

O. CHARLES . HANBY = A woolsack.

R. IN . GILFORD . 1662 = A castle.

$\frac{1}{4}$

O. IOHN . KING . IN = A woolsack.

R. GVILDFORD . 64 = A castle.

$\frac{1}{4}$



John King was a freeman of Guildford, having taken up his freedom from his father (also a freeman) as eldest son.

He was appointed collector for the poor of St. Mary's, April 25, 1671.

A variety is dated 1658.

O. EDWARD . LEE . IN = A castle.

R. GILLDFORD . 1658 = A woolpack.



O. EDWARD . LEE = A woolpack.

R. GVILDFORD . 1664 = A castle.

Nothing whatever is known respecting this issuer. He is presumed to have been a relative of Henry Lee.

O. HENRY . LEE . IN = A woosack.

R. GVILDFORD . 1658 = A small castle.



Henry Lee was one of the town poor apprentices, having been apprenticed by the overseers to 'John Childs and another, and faithfully served them seven full years,' taking up the freedom of the town.

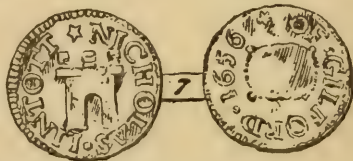
He evidently attained to a good position in the town afterwards, from the fact of his issuing his own trade token. He was elected overseer for the parish of St. Mary, April 4, 1680, and December 26, 1682, and churchwarden, April 13, 1691.

The modern spelling of the name of the town appears on this token for the first time.

A variety is dated 1653.

O. NICHOLAS . LINTOTT = A castle.

R. OF . GILFORD . 1656 = A woosack.



A town apprentice, having been bound to Thomas Newman, and served him 'seven full years.'

He was made 'Bayliffe' in 1659, and elected one of the 'approved men,' or Town Councillor, in 1660, and also in 1661.

In 1662, however, the following record appears in the town books :

‘Nicholas Lintott was discharged from being called by the name of Bayliffe in 1662, for refusing to take the oath and make subscription.’

This probably refers to the Corporation Act* (17 Car. II., cap. 2), and to the Oath of Non-resistance and abjuring the Covenant (15 Car. II., cap. 5); and the fact of Lintott refusing to take it would imply that he was a Dissenter, probably a Quaker, very possibly one of those who, with other Guildford men, supported Cromwell.

A remarkable proof of this man’s strong Puritan opinions appears in Holy Trinity register, in which his family are conspicuously entered as ‘Borne,’ in the ‘Baptized’ column, and never as ‘Baptized.’

A variety is dated 1666.

Another variety is also dated 1658.

O. IOHN . MAY . SHOOMAKER = A shoe or last.

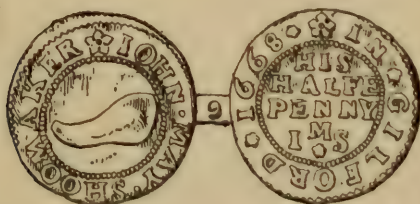
HIS

R. IN . GILFORD . 1668 = HALFE

PENNY

M

I . S



* The objectionable words in this Act were the following : ‘I, A. B., do swear that it is not lawful upon any pretence whatever to take up arms against the King, and that I do abhor that traitorous position of taking up arms against His Person, or against those that are commissioned by him. And that I will not at any time endeavour any alteration of Government either in Church or State.’

With one exception, this is the rarest of all the Guildford series, and one of the scarcest of the tokens of the county.

Nothing is at present known about the issuer of this token, the only half-penny of the series, and an exception to the general rule as regards the spelling of the word PENNY.

O. ABDIAH . MARTIN . 1664 A woolsack.

R. IN . GILFORD . 1664 = A castle.

A freeman of Guildford, having served his father in apprenticeship seven years.

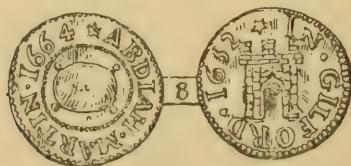
He was proprietor of a piece of ground next the 'Tun Inn,' in Tunsgate, upon which an annual charge to the Grammar School existed, as in the rent roll of the Free Grammar School, December 15, 1671, we read :

'Abdiah Martin is charged for his garden and where the mercate house is built xxd.'

A piece of this ground was afterwards purchased by the Corporation, and the wheat market-house above referred to built upon it.

This market-house, was, however, let on a lease of 1,000 years to a Mr. Steere on June 13, 1737.

A singular variety of this token bears on the obverse, in addition to the legend, the date 1664, and on the reverse 1652.



It is clear, on examination, that the obverse is the usual one, as described above ; but the reverse exactly

resembles that of the following token of John Martin, and it is supposed that the same coiner struck each of these tokens, but that, in error, he used an old reverse die of John Martin in striking a second issue for Abdiah, instead of the correct die.

Another most curious variety reads ABDIAH . MARTIN . MARTIN on the obverse, and is clearly one struck from an incorrect die, probably only a proof.

A third variety is struck upon pure copper, not brass as usual, and is nearly one-eighth of an inch thick.

O. IOHN . MARTIN = A woolsack.

R. IN . GILFORD . 1652 = A castle.

This John Martin is another instance of a poor lad rising to considerable position and affluence in his native town. The old parish register informs us that he was apprenticed by the overseers to Mr. Cobbet, and served his master 'faithfully and well for nine years.' Something like an apprenticeship!

In 1640 he had become a man of property, and the Roll of the Subsidy, previously quoted as granted by Parliament to Charles I., has his name thus:

'Iohn Martyn in goodes iij℥ paying vs. iijd. in every pound.'

In 1643, the town records note that John Martyn was one of the wardens of the Rye Market-house.

The Rye Market-house stood in High Street, and occupied a site in the north-east corner of Holy Trinity Church. It was pulled down on January 6, 1758, and its value (£200) invested in bank stock.

In 1647 John Martyn was elected as Mayor, but, singular to state, does not appear as an 'approved man,' or Councillor, until 1651, and would therefore appear

to have been selected from the town without first passing through the Council. He was elected an 'approved man' six times, *i.e.* in 1651, 1652, 1653, 1656, 1657 and 1658, and was again Mayor in 1654 and 1655.

In 1663 the town incurred an expense of one hundred and fifty-five pounds (£155) (in those days an enormous sum), which was all spent in welcoming his Majesty Charles II., in his visit to Guildford soon after his restoration. Like a brave old Royalist, as he most certainly must have been, John Martyn—or Martin, as the name then appears—gave a subscription of five pounds (£5) towards this expense; and, with the exception of Smallpeece, Nettles and another resident, who gave equal amounts, we do not find that any Guildfordian gave so large a gift. He evidently lived in the parish of St. Mary, as the churchwardens' book proves, his signatures being head of the list for several years in the signatures of those who attended the vestry meetings. The fact that it is first written whenever he attended shows he was considered a man of great importance in the parish. He is buried near the north door of St. Mary's Church, having died at the age of seventy-five.

A variety is dated 1657

O. IOSEPH . NETLES . OF = .N.
I . E

R. GVILDFORD . IN . SVRRY = A thistle or a wheat-sheaf.



Joseph Nettles was an 'approved man' of Guildford five times, viz., in 1657, 1658, 1659, 1660 and 1661.

He is described in Russell's 'History' as being of St. Mary's parish; and he founded an exhibition to the University of Oxford or Cambridge, for the son of a freeman taught in the Grammar School, by leaving to the said school certain lands in Stoke on trust.

This man shared the same fate as Nicholas Lintott, previously referred to, being discharged from being called by the name of Bayliffe for refusing to take the oath in 1662.

He was a publican, and tenant of the Grammar School for the 'Tun Inn.' See the rent roll of December 15, 1671, in which his rent is mentioned at 'xxxs. for the halfe yeare.' He also rented of the same charity 'a corne chamber over the wheat mercate house and a shed thereto belonging for xxvjs. for the halfe yeare.'

As mentioned before, he was one of the three men who subscribed £5 each towards the expense of £155 incurred in welcoming Charles II. to Guildford in 1663.

O. IOHN . REMNANT = A castle.

R. OF . GILLFORD . 1667 = A woolsack.



John Remnant was a resident in St. Mary's parish, and was appointed collector for the poor for that parish in 1669. He was also appointed surveyor of highways for the same parish on December 29, 1671, and overseer of highways for the same, December 29, 1674.

Boyne in his book on 'Tokens' gave the spelling of Gillford incorrectly as Gilford.

The issuer, with two others, had a distress served upon him in 1670, in which goods value £16 16s. were taken from the three of them for an attendance at a meeting held in the street, when kept out of their meeting-house at Guildford.

In 1670 we read the following quaint and interesting entry of him: 'Jane Remnant, of Guildford, had taken from her soe much cheese as was worth aboute fower pounds for three pounds imposed on her son John for being at a silent meeting amongst Friends, where shee was not nor did usually frequent. The wch cheese was kept by ye magistrates whilst it was spoyled, for none would buy it, but it was cast forth and buryed.'—Besse's 'Sufferings of the Quakers,' vol. i., p. 699.

O. DANIELL . SARLLE = A castle (no inner circle).

R. IN . GILFORD . 1667 = A woolsack with inner circle.



One of the specimens in the author's cabinet was found between some boards in the Town Hall by Apark the Beadle, in 1847, and is the only token he ever heard was found in the Hall.

The issuer is supposed to have been a lawyer; his signature appears on receipts in the receipt-book of Nettles' Charity, and also as a ratepayer of the parish of Holy Trinity, in the churchwardens' book at the Easter Vestries of 1697, 1699, 1702 and 1713. In the roll of voluntary contributors toward the alteration

of the gallery in the church, in 1699, his name appears, with that of John Smallpeece, as a donor of 2s. 6d.

He took up his freedom of the town, as eldest son, from his father; and he was appointed Tythingman in 1658, and overseer of the poor for the parish of St. Mary, 1676.

O. IOHN . SMALLPEECE = A castle with a woolsack before it.

R. IN . GVILFORD = A barge with four men rowing.



The representative of one of the very oldest Guildford families, resident in the town now for over 400 years.

This John Smallpeece was a grocer, and his father was also of that trade; and in the constitution-book of the town, amongst the apprenticeships registered, is this name:

‘Apprenticed to his Father and Mother, Grocers.’

It is an unusual entry, and would appear to prove that the mother was an active and working partner in the business, so much so as to be mentioned in the indenture of apprenticeship.

On Tuesday, August 26, 1662 (14 Car. II.), twelve royal commissioners, amongst whom was Sir Richard Onslow, held sittings at Guildford, to inquire into the proceedings of the Mayor and certain magistrates of the town, who had refused to take the oath of supremacy and non-resistance upon the restoration of Charles II.;

‘and Henry Parson, Maior; R. Budd, sen., John How,

John Alderton, W^m. Hill, T. Smith, T. Horsnaile, magistrates, were discharged and acquitted from the office of maioraltie and magistracey of the said towne for refusing to take the Oathes and make subscription as by the said act of parliament is enjoyned. And for the future they be not called or beare the name of magistrates and approved men of the towne afore-said ; and John Smalepeice, grocer, was chosen Maior in his stead.'

He was, from this extract, evidently a man of some note in the town for loyalty to Church and King, or he would not have been specially selected for this honour by the royal commissioners.

He lived to the age of seventy-nine, and died July 29, 1701, and is buried in the centre aisle of Holy Trinity Church.

He was elected constable, a kind of special overseer, for his native parish of St. Mary on December 24, 1668, and in the churchwardens' book for St. Mary's occurs the following entry :

'Sept. ye 1, 1672.

'Collected for John Smallpeece of Guildford for losses by Fire xxijjs. viij*d*.'

It would appear from this entry that he was a person of so much consequence in the parish, that a special offertory was made at the parish church to assist him in meeting some heavy loss incurred by fire.

In 1695 he was churchwarden of the parish of Holy Trinity, and his signature as a ratepayer occurs in the churchwardens' book of that parish at the Easter vestries of 1697, 1699 and 1701. Among the list of voluntary contributions towards the altering of the gallery of Holy Trinity Church, 1699, his name appears as a donor of 2s. 6*d*. In this roll the total amount collected was only £7 14*s*., and only five donations were of 10*s*., most of

he amounts being 2s. 6d. and 1s. There is an oft-recurring item in the churchwardens' account, reading, 'For breaking the ground in the Church, paid Iohn Smallpeece 6s. 8d.'

An ancestor of this issuer was Mayor of the town in 1502, and the name appears on the Mayor's Roll in 1552, 1560, 1568, 1574, 1582, 1591, 1596, 1602, 1662 (as above), 1707, 1714, 1831, and 1836; but, although members of the family have been on the Council since, they have not provided another Mayor of the borough.

O. IAMES . SNELLING = A woolsack.

R. IN . GVILFORDE = A castle.



As far as can be ascertained, the specimen of this token in the author's cabinet is unique. It was presented to the late John Nealds, a well-known Guildford antiquary, by the Rev. Charles Kerry, when curate of Puttenham, a most zealous and painstaking antiquary, who found it near Guildford when searching for some flint implements on March 4, 1873. There is no specimen of it in the British Museum, nor in any public or private collection within the personal knowledge of the author, and it is very singular that one only of this issue should be known as surviving from those originally struck.

The issuer was a freeman of the town, taking up his freedom from his father as eldest son. He was evidently a well-known and respected man, as he served his town

as 'an approved man' no less than ten times, *i.e.*, in 1665, 1666, 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1673, 1674, and was elected Sergeant-at-Mace, September 1, 1662, in room of William Tisberry, discharged for refusing to take the oath.

In January, 1660, James Snelling, Quaker, was taken from his house at Guildford, and committed to the White Lion Prison, Southwark, and there placed among the felons, with seventy other Quakers from different parts of Surrey, thirty-two of whom were tried on October 30, 1662, for obstinate refusal to repair unto a church or chapel, and being present at an unlawful assembly or conventicle, and were sentenced to be imprisoned for three months, and after that time to abjure the realm or be proceeded against as felons.—Besse's 'Sufferings of the Quakers,' vol. i., p. 690.

O. THOMAS . TOMPSON = A castle.

R. OF . GILFORD . 1657 = A woolsack.

Thomas Tompson was apprenticed to Mathew Birchell, and served him seven full years, taking up his freedom therefrom.

He was elected 'approved man' three times, *viz.*, 1665, 1666, 1667, and Bailiff of the town, 1664.

In 1608 (6 Jac. I.) the entry occurs in the Guildford constitution-book relative to this issuer :

'Thomas Tompson, the elder one, of the Corporation of Guildford, disfranchised, and dismissed from the fellowship of the Mayor and approved men during such tyme as he shall keep a common alehouse or tiplinge-house.'

O. THOMAS . TOMPSON = A castle.

R. OF . GILLFORD . 1657 = A woolsack.

The only difference between this issue and the last occurs in the spelling of the word 'Gilford' or 'Gillford,' one being with only one 'L,' the other having two.

In January, 1660, Thomas Thompson, Quaker, was taken from his bed at Guildford and committed to the White Lion Prison, Southwark, and there placed among the felons, with seventy other Quakers from different parts of Surrey, thirty-two of whom were tried on October 30, 1662, for obstinate refusal to repair unto a church or chapel, and being present at an unlawful assembly or conventicle, and were sentenced to be imprisoned for three months, and after that time to abjure the realm or be proceeded against as felons.—Besse's 'Sufferings of the Quakers,' vol. i., p. 690.

O. THOMAS . WILMOT = $\begin{matrix} W \\ T . A \end{matrix}$

R. NEERE . GVILDFORD = A postman with a staff and bag, and wearing a high-crowned hat.

O. THOMAS . WILMOT = $\begin{matrix} W \\ T . A \end{matrix}$

R. NEERE . GVILDFORD = A postman with a staff and bag, and wearing a high-crowned hat.

There are two varieties of this token, one in which the W on the obverse is plain and solid and the other has the centre strokes overlapping each other at their junctions, thus, W.

The mark W is deeply cut in the stonework of Compton Church in several places. Might not this refer to this issuer, as he is expressly mentioned as residing 'neere' Guildford?



O. THOMAS . WILMOT = .W.
T . A

R. NEERE . GVILDFORD = A postman with a staff and bag, wearing a low-crowned hat and bag-wig.



O. } Struck with the obverse of one, and the reverse
R. } of the other.

Of their issuer nothing is known. It is termed the Postman's Token.

Following the proclamation of 1672, previously referred to, the issue of copper regal money supplied the desired small change; and this issue continued during the reigns of James II., William and Mary, and William III., and also to a certain extent in Queen Anne's, although in this reign very little copper money was struck.

George I. and George II. also struck considerable copper currency; but during the succeeding reign, that of George III., we again see our familiar friends, the tokens, of which the first struck was by the Paris Mines Company, in the island of Anglesey, for payment of their employés. They issued their token in 1787, which was one ounce of pure copper, actually and intrinsically worth the one penny, and this was followed in 1788 by the halfpenny to correspond.

Following them, came a very extensive copper currency of considerable interest, the issues of which were frequently very beautifully struck, and of high artistic merit. They frequently represent buildings that have now ceased to exist, and often commemorated the rise of

trading families that have now reached the position of merchant princes. They often also represent old methods of manufacture, as hat-making, weaving, and iron-working, and as often point to the opening of public buildings and institutions, as the Botanical Gardens at Bath, and others.

It is supposed that some 900 tons of copper were used for the issue of these tokens, and they form a kind of medallic history of the period.

Surrey was not behindhand in their issue, and the following are known to have been issued for Guildford :

1. *O.* GVILDFORD . TOWER . SURRY = A fortress in ruins.

R. BRITISH PENNY, 1797. = A globe between a rose and a thistle.

Edge. I promise to pay on demand the bearer one penny.

Exergue. JACOBS.

2. *O.* GUILDFORD TOWER, SURRY. = Castle in ruins.

R. The arms of London between two palm branches.

Edge. LONDON PENNY TOKEN.

Exergue. JACOBS.

3. *O.* SUCCESS TO THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTORY. = Bishop Blaize carrying a woolcomb ; in base a woolsack.

R. GVILDFORD HALFPENNY. = Castle, in base a lion couchant.

4. Variety as above, but struck in bronze.

5. *O.* SUCCESS TO THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTORY. = Bishop Blaize with a woolcomb, at base a lion couchant.

R. FEAR GOD AND HONOUR THE KING, 1795. =
Shield bearing the arms of London, sur-
mounted with a crown.

6. *O.* GUILD FORD HALFPENNY. = A castle, in base a
lion couchant.

R. A Druid's head to the left, in an oaken
wreath.

7. *O.* SUCCESS TO THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTORY. =
Bishop Blaize with a woolcomb, in base a
woolsack.

R. PEACE . PLENTY AND LIBERTY. = A wheatsheaf.

CHAPTER IV

THE DOMINICAN FRIARY

AT the lower end of North Street, where the old Militia Barracks and the present printing office of the *Surrey Times* now stand, there used to exist a Dominican Friary.

Its grounds must have extended on both sides of the river, but were probably divided by a lane or pathway belonging to the town, as we read of a foot-bridge erected by them to their 'walnut wood.' Their ground probably also covered the space now occupied by the Electric Light Works and the various offices near the new bridge, extending on the opposite bank of the river into part of what is now Farnham Road.

The Friars have left their name in Friary Street, and for some years the district round about that street was a parish in itself, which had not possessed a parish church since the destruction in the sixteenth century of the church of the Friary.

Nothing now remains in the way of stone-work that can be identified with the original buildings, and, as will be seen presently, most of the building materials were carried away to Shalford, and were used in building Shalford House. The only treasure from the Friary which Guildford possesses consists in the central portion of the windows in Abbot's Hospital, said to have been purchased by George Abbot from the Friary buildings, and very largely added to by him before he fitted them into the chapel of his hospital. Some references occur later on as to these windows.

The Friary had a long and eventful history, and after

its dissolution its buildings served many purposes. The information accessible to the public up to the present time has been of a disjointed and irregular character, but it is believed that the following pages contain an accurate and continuous history of this interesting foundation, which has left its mark upon the nomenclature of Guildford streets.

The order of the Dominican Friars was founded by a Spaniard named St. Dominic, a canon of the diocese of Osma, in Castile, at the close of the twelfth century. They were called Dominicans from the name of their founder, but were better known in England as Preaching Friars, or Black Friars from the colour of part of their habit. Their rule was an Augustine one, approved at Rome in 1216 by Pope Honorius III. They first came to England at the request of Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, in 1221, and speedily established a strong position in this country. Some of their largest friaries were at Warwick, Canterbury, Stamford, Chelmsford, Ipswich, Norwich, Thetford, Exeter and Brecknock. The Friar who came over first to England was Gilbert de Fresnoy, and he brought twelve brothers with him. The earliest house founded in this country was at Oxford; soon afterwards a friary was established in London.

Peter de Rupibus died in 1238 at his castle in Farnham, and there is a somewhat strange story to be told about his remains. His body was buried at Winchester in the Cathedral, but his heart was interred at Waverley Abbey, as he had taken great interest in that foundation of the Cistercians. About the year 1730 this heart was discovered by some persons who were digging in the ruins of the Abbey, and was removed from its sacred resting-place and brought into Guildford. When Manning and Bray wrote their history of the

county at the beginning of the last century, it was in the possession of Mr. John Martyr, a barrister of Guildford, living in the High Street, where Mr. Bull's shop now is, and his father, the town clerk, had received it from Mr. Child, a former owner of Waverley, who had built the house in which the Martyrs resided. The heart is believed to have been preserved in Guildford in its original lead case down to 1830, but since that time it has been lost sight of, and no one now seems to know what has become of it.

The earliest reference to the existence of the Dominican Friars in Guildford occurs in 1258 (42 of Henry III.), when 'John Fitz Geoffry, a great man in his time and much in favour with his prince, happened to die near Guildford, which, when the King, who was then at St. Albans, heard, he caused Mass to be celebrated for his soul by the whole convent of Dominicans at Guildford, and forthwith gave orders to his treasurer, John de Crakhile, to provide a cloth of gold to lay over his body when it was carried through London.'

The friars were brought to Guildford by Queen Eleanor, the consort of King Henry III., but the exact date of their foundation in the town is not at present known.

It is probable that at first they were but a small body, but, after a while, they acquired a much more important position. The Rev. C. R. F. Palmer, to whose important series of articles on the Friar Preachers much of the history of Guildford Friary is due, tells an interesting story about Prince Henry, the son of Edward I. and Queen Eleanor of Castile.

This prince was a sickly child, and during the absence of his father and mother in the Crusades was left to the care of his grandmother, Queen Eleanor of Provence. After the accession of Edward I. to the throne, a serious

illness overtook the young prince, and on September 24, 1273, he journeyed from Windsor to Guildford, and sojourned with the Dominican Friars whom his grandmother had placed in the town. There large alms were given to the poor, and special Masses offered for the lad's recovery.

Prince Henry and his sister a little later on made pilgrimages to various special shrines at Faversham, Rochester, Merton, and other places, were present at their father's coronation on August 19th, and were back in Windsor on August 26th, 1274. The prince, however, became no better, but was now very seriously ill, and was again brought down to Guildford in 1274. Masses of the Holy Ghost were celebrated at St. Mary's on the Friars' altar, and also in the Friary Chapel, on his behalf, and oblations and alms were offered. Candies, syrups, and medicines were sent for with all speed from London, but the heir to the throne was dying, and nothing could stem the progress of the fell disease.

On Saturday, October 20th, all was over, and, as the household roll attests, 'Hac die obit Dominus Henricus.' On the 24th of the same month, the records discovered by Mr. Palmer tell us that three Masses were celebrated for the repose of his soul at St. Mary's, the corpse was embalmed, wax candles to the weight of 150 pounds were burned, the church was censed, and large alms of silver were distributed to the poor, and then from Guildford the melancholy procession started, bearing the poor lad's body by way of Merton up to Westminster for interment in the Abbey.

The death of the prince in Guildford had invested the old place with a pathetic interest. Both to the Queen Dowager Eleanor of Provence, and to the Queen Mother Eleanor of Castile, the prince was very dear, and upon

his life were centred many hopes. Upon his decease, the two Queens, who were frequently at the palace of Guildford, in which Henry III. had specially fitted up a suite of rooms for his daughter-in-law, Queen Eleanor, seem to have decided that the Friar Preachers should have an important home wherein a perpetual memory of their lost one could be cherished.

The heart of Prince Henry was deposited in the church, and solemnly exposed on the anniversaries of his decease, while, as the day came round, various members of the Royal Family made special effort to attend the requiems. On May 17th, 1306, we read of Prince Thomas and Prince Edmund, sons of King Edward by a second wife, being present at a requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of their half-brother.

In 1274 * Edward I. granted a license to the friars to enlarge their ground by taking in a contiguous road leading from Guildford to the King's Park. They also had permission to cross the river by a wooden foot-bridge and to take in the large wood on the opposite side, where there were many trees. It would appear from this permission as though North Street at that time extended right down to the river, and it is probable that there was a sort of drawbridge connecting it with the King's Park on the other side. Of the walnut trees planted by the friars we have a record still, seven hundred years afterwards, in the name of the road, Walnut-tree Close, so persistent are place-names in this country. There is one walnut tree still standing in the road.

In 1279, John, the son of Alan Feyrchild, gave to the brethren and to their successors for ever all the land which they held of him in pure and perpetual alms.†

* Cart 3 Edward I., n. 14.

† Place. Com. Surrey. Ed. I. Azziz. Rot. III.

This gift was given before the King's justices at Guildford, and would seem to be the site for the house or for the church. From the obituary of the Friary we learn the names of other generous benefactors who assisted the friars. John de Westpurle gave timber and £100 towards building the dormitory. Sir Hugh Fitz Otho built the choir at his own cost, and the lady named Clarisse, who is said to have been his sister, paid for the stalls. Peter de Fernham gave a book called 'A Body of Civil Law,' to the library. Robert de Stoughton gave 20s. a year, arising out of some land, for ever. Other benefactors gave land called Brydelande (now called Bridley), and other land called Brokewood (now called Brookwood), both near Woking, to the friars, and Gilbert de Stoughton in 1516 granted them 40s. a year out of his property in the town.

There are references also in the same manuscripts to presents from the Kings and their families. Edward II. gave 8s. to the friars through William de Gildford, who was Prior at that time; Edward III. visited the Friary on several occasions, each time leaving behind him substantial presents, and in 1336 we read of the twenty friars going out in procession to meet the King and welcome him into the town.

Henry VI. and the Royal family lodged with the Friar Preachers on the 12th of February, 1423, and made them a present of 40s. for the damage that had been done to the house, the vessels and the gardens in entertaining the Royal guests.

Henry VII. granted the friars all the fallen wood out of his park as fire-wood, but there is no reference to any monetary payments from this Royal miser.

Henry VIII., however, bestowed many gifts upon them, his largest monetary present, the sum of £5, being given on the 29th of July, 1531. His daughter,

Princess Mary, afterwards Queen Mary, in July, 1537, visited the friars and gave them 7s. 6d.*

Other gifts recorded in manuscripts relating to the Friary are as follows :

Several books and sums of money from Richard de Rudham, Rector of Compton.

A croft of land, which is believed to have been the Friars' Croft referred to later on, from Thomas Genys, who died on the 10th August, 1508, and was buried in Compton Church. His monument is a stone of Purbeck marble inlaid with figures, which is in the middle of the nave.

A book, 'Summa Summarum,' from John Wyse.

'A good goblet with a cover,' from Thomas Stedman and Elizabeth his wife, and a precious chalice from John Yeman.

An important bequest was that made by Sir Reginald Bray on the 4th August, 1503, when he left £200, to be paid at the rate of £10 a year to the friars, that they might say Mass for the soul of his wife, his father, and his mother, and for his own soul.

The obituary from which these references are taken is in the library at Cambridge,† and there is a transcript of it by Tanner in the Bodleian.‡ It records a very long list of Priors, of whom the following may be mentioned:

Bernard Herman, Prior in 1373, *ob.* 21st July.

Robert Tenoues, *ob.* 26th April, 1404.

Richard ——— *ob.* 28th May, 1415.

John Venables, *ob.* 14th April 1419.

Thomas Wrockling, *ob.* 1st May, 1425.

Thomas Tydman, Prior in 1462, *ob.* 23rd January, 1477.

* Royal Coll. Brit. Mus. 17. B. 28 Folio 216.

† L.L. II. 9.

‡ M.S.S. 342. Folio 179.

The following were also Priors, but, with one exception, their order is uncertain, owing to the omission of the year of their death in the obituary. As a rule the day of the death was most carefully chronicled, because on that date the deceased was commemorated in the Mass for the departed.

Nicholas Monyngton, *ob.* 29th April.

John de Wonersh, *ob.* 23rd May.

William de Fernham, *ob.* 24th July.

John Gregory, *ob.* 16th August.

John de Trottesworth, D.D., *ob.* 21st August.

John Hook, D.D., *ob.* 28th August.

Walter de Haveldersh, D.D., *ob.* 3rd September.

(It is interesting to notice that Haldersh is still the name of one of the manors in Wonersh).

William Andree, Bishop of Meath, *ob.* 28th September.

(This man was rather an important Englishman, in other records called William Andrew. In 1374 he was consecrated Bishop of Aghado. In 1380 he was translated by Urban VI. to the See of Meath, and he died on the 28th of September, 1385. He left the Dominican Friary of Guildford in 1374 for his first bishopric, but is recorded in the obituary in connection with the See of Meath, in which he died).

John de Godalming, *ob.* 17th December.

Marcellinus de Akorton, D.D., *ob.* 20th December.

One or two other persons who were kind to the friars should be mentioned. Amongst them was Alice de Burgham, the wife of Thomas de Wintershull, Lord of Burgham or Burpham, who left them money in 1385 (May 20th), arising out of land at Wintershull or Burpham, both of them places not far away from Guildford.

Richard de Tangley should also be mentioned, as he left them a charge on his land near Wonersh.

One of the friars, named Geoffrey, is mentioned as being master of the schools at Guildford, and it is therefore clear that the friars had the oversight of the education of the place. (See also Chapter V.)

Another one, Gilbert, who afterwards became Bishop of St. David's, was Vicar for the friars of St. Mary's Church, and had special charge of the parishioners of the Friary.

The friars had a special license to hear confessions. This license which is recorded in the registry of the Bishop of Winchester was first discovered by the Rev. Charles Kerry, then living at Puttenham. It gave the friars permission to preach throughout the diocese of Winchester, and to hear confessions wherever they went. Unfortunately this privilege was productive of much irregularity and disorder. It was resented by the parochial clergy as an encroachment upon their privileges, and they considered it a snare to their people. As long as their confessions were made to their regular priest, the people could not so easily avoid their religious obligations, but, when friars who knew nothing of them personally came amongst them, there was an inclination to make light of confession and penance; and it was this permission that brought the friars into disrepute, and caused them to be ridiculed and burlesqued.

They appear to have had a somewhat important library at the Friary, and Leland mentions that it contained, besides the 'Body of Civil Law,' and 'Summa Summarum' already mentioned, a treatise by Fitz Acer upon the four books of 'Sentences by St. Thomas Aquinas,' the 'Life of St. Germaeus,' a volume of rhetoric called 'Soluta Oratione,' an exposition of the rule of St. Augustine, and a life of St. Jerome in Spanish.

By 1537, the friars appear, however, to have been reduced to poverty. Alms and tithes at that time were

not being regularly paid, and much of the land held by the Friary was unproductive. A petition praying for the King's bounty was therefore addressed to Henry VIII.*

Mr. Palmer, in his article on the Friar Preachers, gives it *in extenso*. It is pathetic and piteous in its tone, but not without a sturdy English ring, and, in answer, a pension of twenty marks per annum was granted to the Friars, commencing from Easter, 1536. It appears, however, to have been only paid for one year, and then came the time of evil days, and the dissolution of the old monastic house was at hand.

In a letter of 1537, William Fitz William, the Lord Admiral, wrote from Guildford to Thomas Cromwell as follows :

‘And forasmuche as the frerer is but a little house, and will be sore pestred at the King's being there as meseemeth, the parsonnarge of Sainct Nicholas which is neare shall be a mete house for yor lordship to lodge in for yor quietness and ease.’

This refers to the visit of the King and his Chancellor, when the dissolution of the smaller houses was decided upon, and one of the chief deeds authorising this nefarious act was signed at the parsonage house of St. Nicholas in Guildford. The visit of desolation was made on October 10th, 1538, and the house surrendered to the commissioners of King Henry VIII.

The original deed of surrender is among the Patent Rolls in the Record Office.†

It is as follows :

‘We, the p'or and covent of the black fryars of gylforde wt. one assent and cosent, wtowte any manr of coaccyon or cosell, do gyve owr house in to the hands of the lord vysytor to ye Kynge use, deseryeryng hys

* Historical Documents. Exchequer series. i. 350.

† Pat. 29. Henry VIII., p. 2. m. 3. (40).

grace to be goode and gracyous tous. In wyt tenes ew
subscrybe owr namys wt. owr pper hands the x day of
October, in ye xxxth yere of ye raygne of owr moste
dred soureyn lorde Kyng Henry ye viijth.

‘William Cobden, Prior.

‘William Dale.

‘Robert Merton.

‘Philip Stawfford.

‘Jo Gyns (? Genyns).

‘(? Friar) Jolvan’e’ Fort.

‘Thomas Hopkyn.’

These are the names of the seven brethren at the
dissolution.

With this deed is a most interesting Inventory of
the contents of the Friary, and for the following notes
upon it we are indebted to that indefatigable anti-
quary, the Rev. Charles Kerry, late of Puttenham. The
Inventory reads as follows :

“The blacke freers of Gilforde.”

‘This indenture makith mencyon of all th’stuffe
remayning in the howse of the blacke ffreerys in gilforde
receyveyed by the lord vysitor vnder the lorde p’vey seale
and delevryd to John Dabarne, meyer, to Daniell mugge
to see and order to the kingis use wt. the howse and all
the apptenaunce till the kingis plesure be further knowen.

“The quere.”

‘It. at ye hey altr a feyer Tabill of alabaster.’

Obviously the reredos—the word *feyer* means *beautiful*,
good, *ornate*—it may have had figures upon it in basso-
relievo.

‘It. at ye endis of the altr tabylls peyntid wt.
ymagery.’

The Dominicans were pre-eminent for their love of
the fine arts. They produced from their own com-
munity two most excellent painters who have drawn

their inspiration from religious influences: Angelico de Fiesole and Bartolomeo della Porta. 'I should call them (says Mrs. Jamieson) emphatically *religious* painters in contradistinction to the mere church painters.'

How one would like to have seen those old 'tabyllys peyntid wt. ymagery'! The great beauty of the Friary Church will not fail to be noticed as we proceed.

'It. a tabernakill owr the alt' wt. an ymage of our lady.'

Probably an image of the Virgin with a canopy over it, for in those times the Host was reserved in a '*pyx*,' usually suspended from the roof.

'It. before ye altr a clothe hangyng of clothe of bad-kin with a frontlyt of motley velvit.'

This baudekin was a rich and precious kind of stuff introduced into England in the thirteenth century. It is said to have been composed of silk interwoven with threads of gold in a most sumptuous manner.

This must have been an early offering of some benefactor.

'It. an ant clothe on ye alt.

'It. a canapey owr ye sacrament ; at eche of ye altr a frame for an altr.'

I suppose for temporary altars on particular occasions.

'It. ij gret candelstickis of laten.

'It. a feyer egill (or eagle) for a lecturne laten.

'It. a feyer stallys well fileid wt. an orgeyne loft.'

Here again *beautiful* stalls well carved or decorated. There is an organ *in the stalls* of Amiens Cathedral.

'It. a peyer of orgaynys.'

That is, an organ with two stops or two rows of pipes. Common in olden times. (Melody only.)

'It. ij pore lecternys tymber.

'It. a tu'be (or tomb) wt. a marbill stone on ye north side of ye quere.

‘It. vnder the stepill a feyer lofte. Under yt a stalle.’

From this we perceive that the ‘stepill’ stood between the body of the church and the choir, or chancel. The rood screen stretched across, and within, on the eastern side, was a stall—the seat of the prior, on the south side of the gateway. The rood loft is described as *feyer*; i.e., beautiful.

‘It. In the stepill, ij bellys, a gret and a small.’

Now follows the Inventory of the contents of the body of the church.

“The chirche.”

‘It. a proper chapell sileid wt. a tabyll alabastr our ye altr.’

This is a chauntry, ‘proper,’ that is, *peculiar*, to some person or family. Possibly, it might form a transept. Observe the alabaster table is *over* the altar, and not *on* it. It was the reredos. The chapel was ‘*sileid*,’ that is, *vaulted* with stone. It does not seem to have been merely a part of an aisle, but something distinct.

‘It. a feyre deske wtin ye p’tclose (or parclose).’

The *parclose* is the space within the altar rails.

‘It. ij setis to knele before ye alt.’

Perhaps ‘fald-stools’ or kneeling-desks. These are obviously in the sileid chapel.

‘It. ij other aulters in the chirche wtin the p’tclose, wt. tabillys allabaster.

before eche alt’ a feyre sete wtin ye p’tclose.

ij setis to knele before eche altr.

‘It. a tube (or tomb) of marbill and a feyre *candelbeme* newe wtout ye p’tclose.’

It is possible that this was the tomb of Joan Bray, because of the *new* ‘candlebeme,’ which was to carry lights on the day of the obit and during the *month’s mind*.

‘It. iij tabyllys allabastr on iij frameis for aulterys.
ii pueis (*pews*) with diuerse other setis.

“The vestrey.”

‘It. ij feyer framys for vestmentis wt. allmerys and a borde to lay on vestments.’

The ‘framys’ were made to swing in and out of a press. They consisted of a horizontal bar attached to an upright post on a pivot, and were arranged on each side of the press, so as to fold in one after the other.

‘Allmerys’ are *safes*, or *strong cupboards*.

‘It. The uppar p’tē of the *sepulchre wood*.’

Some portion of the *Easter Sepulchre*. A receptacle for the Host on Good Friday evening, over which watch was kept until Easter Day morning, when it was removed or lifted out with great rejoicing in honour of the *Resurrection*.

We have now done with the church.

‘In “The gret Kechin” were :

‘It. a grat leade in a furnas.

‘It. ij gret chimneis wt. racks to rost.

‘It. ij chopping bordis and in ye *ennrhowse* a cestrne of leade to watr barley.

‘In “The entre betwix bothe kechinns.”

‘ij setis framys to sett on.

‘In “The littill kechin.”

‘It. ij frameis of leade to watr fishe.

‘It. dressing bordis.

“The Pastrie.”

‘It. a gret boltinge hoche.

‘It. a gret *trowe* to knede in, wt. a borde ovr yt.

‘It. ij molding bordis : an old *trowe* under.

‘It. *in ye ynnr howse*, a hotche for brede.

‘It. a gret chopping borde.

‘It. another small borde, and a planke wt. rackes of wood to hange flesche.

“In the yarde.”

‘It. a feyer well, wt. buckett and chenys to draw watr.

‘Besides ys, because yer was gret clamor for dettis, the wch. drew above *xli.*, wherfor all ye stuff of ye vestre, the wch. was very pore, was solld for *vijli.* and *xs.*, the wch. was all oweing abrode, beside yr bretherne and srvaunts for their payement. all ye stuffe of ye kechen and buttrey, wt. *ij* candel stickis of ye quire, wt. ye pore bedding was all sold, and the holl money payed excepte *xvjs. viijd.*, the wch. payde the visitorys costis. And yns the visitor chargeid Sr. Wm. Cobden lately p’or yr wt. ye Kingis logging, wt. all such implementis as he before was chargid wt. by ye Kingis officerys. And beside yt, d’d to ye seid Wm. Cobden *x* platerys, *vj* discheis and *iiij* sawcerys, the wch war markid wt. the Kingis marke, to kepe ye seid vessell wtyn ye login and aptemente till ye Kingis plesure be furtr knowen. And ye seid visitor hathe wt. him to ye Kingis use in plate (broke and holl) *xx* unc and *v* unc, and yns he depteid.

‘by me John Dabor’ mayer,

‘by me daniell mugge.

‘Treas. of Rec. of Exch., Vol. B. 2-19. Submissions of Monasteries 9 and 10.’

Manning and Bray, on the authority of a MS. in the prosession of George, Lord Onslow, state that Henry VIII. built a house on the site of the old Friary, and, according to Russell, this was considered the principal house in the royal manor, and in this house the King was probably resident in 1546, when Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, grand master of his household, died there.

Mr. Kefry, however, thought it probable that the King merely repaired the existing buildings, and made them more commodious for his use. The inventory has

already informed us that these buildings consisted of the church, including a choir or chancel, a tower in the centre, a nave, a 'proper' or chauntry chapel, and a vestry. The domestic buildings included : 1, a great kitchen with its inner house ; 2, a little kitchen with its inner house, both kitchens being separated by a passage ; 3, the pastry or bakehouse, with ovens ; 4, the great room or great house, used for a barn in 1606 ; 5, the dormitory, or upper chamber, already mentioned as the work and gift of John de Westpurle.

There is a curious letter amongst the Loseley MSS., dated 27th September, 1575, from Anthony, Viscount Montague, to Sir William More, from Cowdray. It is touching the recent outbreaks of fire at Gilford Manor House, and the reasons for attributing them to the malice of one Fuller and his wife, who had charge of the house, and were the only persons living in it.

It speaks of 'the ghost of a monk or friar which so greatly alarmed Mrs. Fuller,' and this seems to identify the 'Manor House' with the old Friary. From the Loseley MSS. we obtain another letter referring to the Friary, 27th August, 1571—a letter from the celebrated Lord Burleigh to Sir William More (then Mr. William More). It opens with an announcement that, when at Guildford the other day, 'Lord Burleigh, after viewing the Frierie there, made a rude trick (or sketch) thereof in manner of a platt (or plan) with his owne hand,' which sketch was entrusted to one Mr. More or Mr. Wollesy's servants to match, 'who offered to make the same more pe-fitlin' (or befitting). This person having neglected to return the drawing, Mr. More is requested to see that he accomplishes his promise to Lord Burleigh in respect to the same.

Beyond these letters no further information has at present been procured as to the house that we believe

Henry VIII. obtained in the altered buildings of the Old Friary. The only other relic of this building is the well at one time in the Fox and Den (originally Foss and Dene) Field, near Guildford, from which the friars obtained their supply of water, and which, with rare judgment, they dug in a position where an ample supply of excellent water was to be got. The early wooden pipes and the later thick leaden ones have occasionally been discovered in digging near, but the old well has now been covered up and cottages erected on its site. The plot of land was at one time known as Priors Croft (already alluded to) and the parchments relating to it might reveal some interesting facts respecting its earlier history and possessors. After the dissolution of the Priory the ground was held by Henry Polsted under the Crown, and continued as Crown demesne until at least 1590.

We have already stated that the two very fine stained-glass windows in the chapel of the Hospital of the Holy Trinity at Guildford were removed by Archbishop Abbot, the founder, from the Church of the Friary.

A contemporary authority, Dr. Ducarel, states emphatically that this was the case. The windows are extremely fine of their kind, and much of the glass they contain is of a date earlier than that of the foundation of the Hospital; but in their present state they were clearly made for the position, and the arms of Abbot impaling Canterbury, and the other similar heraldic devices, prove that they were put together expressly for the chapel of the Hospital.

It is probable that some of the lights originally belonged to the Friary and were utilised by the Archbishop, and, from the appearance of the glass, we think this theory may be fairly deduced, and would form the basis for the statement of Dr. Ducarel. Many authori-

ties upon stained-glass have given it as their opinion that one window is of a much older date than the other, and we are disposed to believe that this older glass came from the Friary Church, and that it was used by Abbot in his work. It probably formed the *motif* for the whole design, and was incorporated with other glass to form the beautiful windows.

The location of the Friary near to the King's Park was of great value to the inhabitants, and, doubtless, through the King's bounty, they were well supplied with deer and game, although we read of no special permission for such provision. From the fact of Henry VIII. residing here, the old Palace of Guildford already alluded to was probably now uninhabitable, and we expect that Edward VI. (whose benefaction to the Royal Grammar School gives importance to his name in the ears of Guildford people) resided here when visiting the town.

We are told by Bishop Burnet in his Journal that the King was at this town in June and August, 1550, and in July, 1552. Sir Michael Stanhope was in 1550 warden of the manor, but, becoming involved in the ruin of his patron, the imprudent Earl of Hertford, he was beheaded in 1551, and, upon the second visit of King Edward in 1552, he would find the newly-appointed warden, William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, in residence.

The Marquis was one of those concerned in the plot for raising Lady Jane Grey, wife of Lord Guildford Dudley, to the throne; and, upon the accession of Queen Mary and the discomfiture of the Duke of Northumberland and the party of Lady Jane Grey, Lord Northampton was deprived of his honours and committed to the Tower. Anthony Browne, Viscount Montagu, Lord Chamberlain to Queen Mary, was made keeper of Guildford Manor in his stead. He died on October 19th,

1592, and was in his turn succeeded in his office at Guildford by Sir Thomas Gorges, who had married the widow of the Marquis of Northampton. James I. early in his reign demised the estate to Sir George More, Knt., of Loseley, and on April 6th, 1606, Sir George More leased the Friary to George Austen, Gent.

This George Austen, on May 23rd following, executed a deed to Sir George More, in which he covenanted 'to pull down and carry away within one year all the timber, tile, brick, and stone which might be had or taken of the old great kitchen—the great room or house, then used for a barn—and all the stone wall from the said great house courtyard westward.' This deed Mr. Kerry found amongst the Loseley MSS.

It is curious to note that the provisions of this agreement are not only to pull down but to carry away all the materials of the buildings named. Had Austen intended to build a house, clearly he would have required the old material, or at least — in those days when material was costly, but labour cheap—he would have used some of the old stone, timber, brick or tile. We have now arrived at what is probably the period in the history of the Friary when it was demolished ; but, contrary to the accepted belief, we consider no new building had up to that time been erected on the site. On September 19th, 1605, by letters patent, James I. granted the beneficial interest in Guildford Manor and estate, once held under the Crown, as before stated, by Sir Thomas Gorges, to his servant, John Murray ; but until the death of Gorges in 1611 Murray did not derive any benefit from the grant.

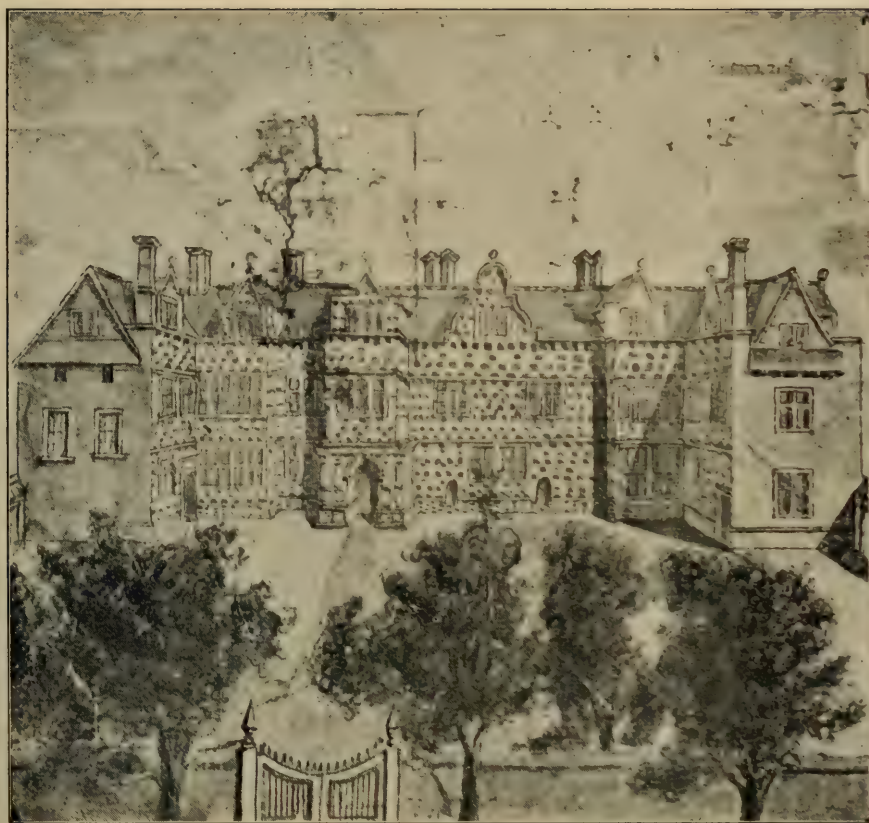
On November 22nd, 1620, James I. made a further grant, giving the office of keeper of Guildford Park to Murray, and granting what is then called, 'the vacant site of the late house of Friary Preachers, in or near the

town of Guildford, to be held by him, his wife and his heirs male for ever at a Crown rental of 50s. a year by fealty only in free and common socage, * together with the deep in the park and free warren in the same.'

This deed, which is a most valuable piece of evidence, disposes of the old theory that George Austen, according to Manning and Bray and other authorities, built a house previous to this on the old site. Murray now purchased of George Austen any interest he had in the land, and any materials then remaining ; and in his purchase the site is most definitely described as 'between the streete called the Friery Lane and a messuage or garden then or late belonging to the heirs of Thomas Snelling on the South.—The King's highway leading from the said street to the Highway called North Town Ditch on the South East.—The highway leading from the said North Town Ditch towards Woodbridge on the East.—And a parcel of land called the "Lee" on the North, and the rivulet called the Water of Waye on the West.' In August, 1622, Murray was raised to the peerage as Baron Murray, at Lochmaben, and on March 13th, 1624, created Viscount Annan and Earl of Annandale. Up to this time Lord Annandale does not appear to have resided on his manor, and in all probability there was no house in which he could so reside, but it is clear that about this time he made preparations for the erection of a house. James I. had now died, and Charles I. had come to the throne, and in the sixth year of that King's reign (1630) Lord Annandale paid into the Treasury the very large sum of £5,000, and, passing back his rights as keeper to the Crown, obtained an absolute grant of the land of the fee simple instead of fee tail. The letters patent are dated March 31st, 1630,† and they vest in

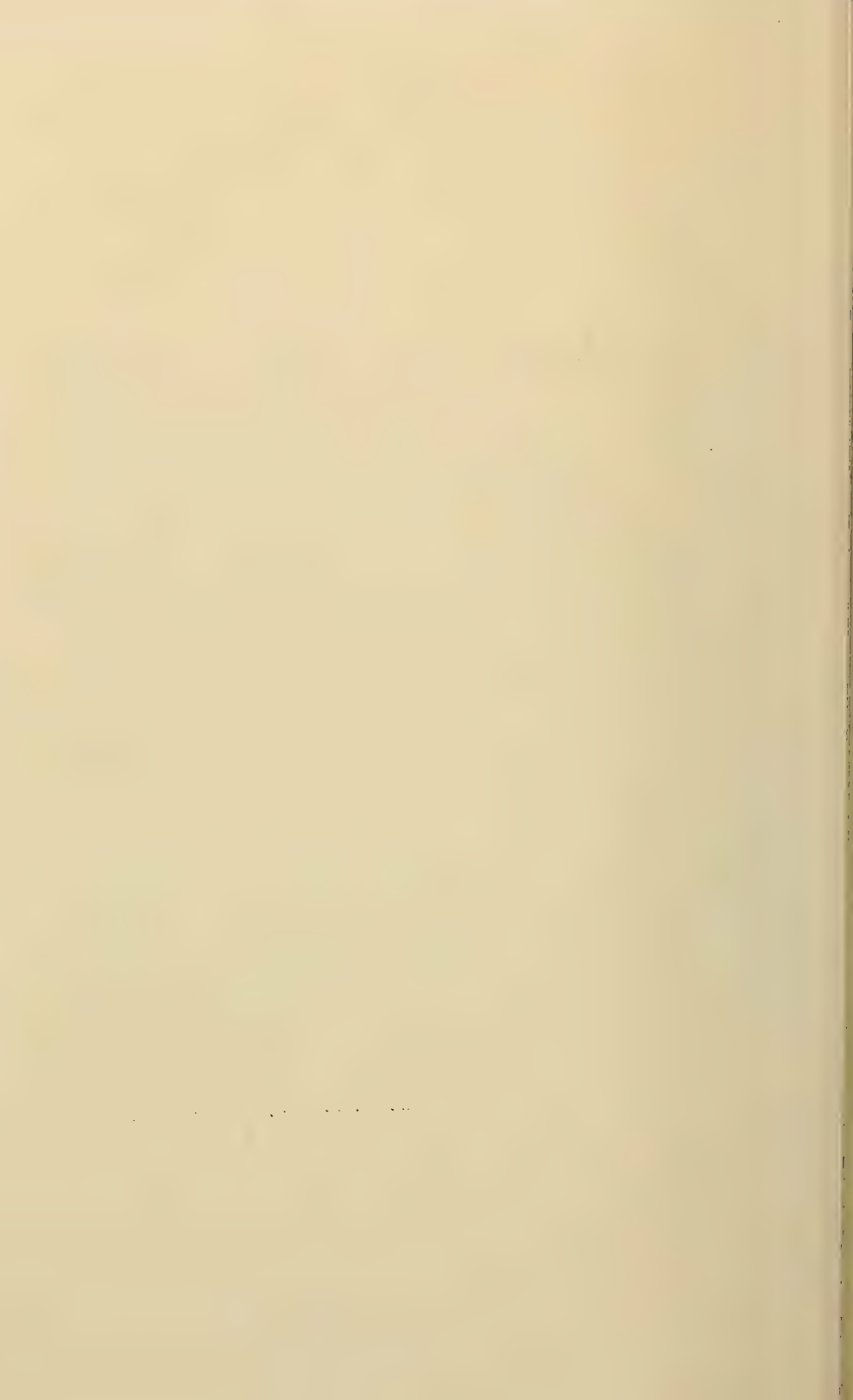
* Pat. 18 Jas. I., p. 6, m. 9.

† Pat. 6 Car. I., p. 8, No. 2.



THE FRIARY, circa 1705.

From a water colour drawing said to have been done for the Colwall family.



him and his heirs and assigns for ever the fee simple of the King's lands, tenements, etc., at Guildford, including the Friary, to be held of the King by fealty only in free and common socage, at a rent of 50s. per annum. Brayley and Britten, confusing this grant with the previous one of 1620, which grants the lands in tail male, give the rent as the fourth of a knight fee; that is £10. They are in error, as this grant did not give them in chief or by knight's service, but by fealty in socage, at a rent of 50s. per annum.

There is another error in their history, touching an important episode in the time of Henry III. which the historians connect with this Friary, but which really concerns the Crutched Friars of Guildford, and to this we shall refer in a later chapter.

The Earl now possessed the lands in perpetuity in fee simple, and forthwith set about building the mansion referred to by Manning and Bray.

The mansion was built for the most part of chalk, with squares of flint regularly interspersed, and Manning and Bray describe it as having an elegant portico of the Doric order at the entrance in the style of Inigo Jones. This porch, it need hardly be observed, was an addition of much later date than the front of the house, but the building on the whole was not without a certain pleasing picturesqueness. Lord Annandale died in 1640, and the estate descended to his son James, Earl of Annandale, who by deeds of lease and release dated June 8th and 10th, 1641, sold it to James Maxwell, his cousin-german, who in 1646 became Earl of Dyrilton.

Lord Dyrilton gave it by deed of April 27th, 1650, to Elizabeth, his eldest daughter, wife of William, Duke of Hamilton. After the death of the Duke of Hamilton the Duchess married Thomas Dalmahoy, and prior to her marriage she executed deeds dated April 22nd and

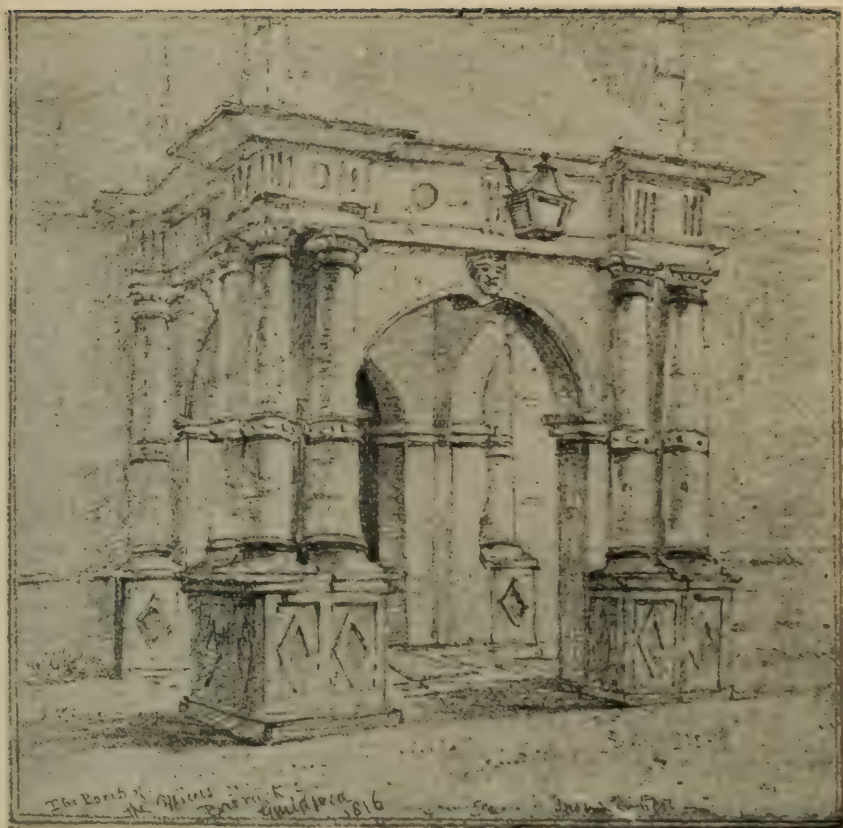
25th, 1653, conveying the land and premises to her intended husband and his heirs for ever. The Duchess died in 1659, and Dalmahoy sold the estate in 1681 to Elizabeth Colwall, widow. From her it descended to her grandson Daniel, whose mother, Susan Anlaby, was an ancestress of the present Earl of Onslow.

Daniel Colwall was a notable man in his time. He was one of the founders of the Royal Society, of which he became treasurer in 1666. He was very largely instrumental in founding the Museum of the Royal Society, presenting to it his collection of natural rarities and a cabinet of shells. We also learn* that he was a member of the Council in 1664-65, and received the public thanks of the Society for 'his generous benefaction' on March 21st, 1665-66. His portrait, by R. White, is prefixed to the very superficial description of the Museum published in folio by Dr. Nehemiah Grew in 1681, and no less than thirty-two of the folio plates in this work were executed at his cost. Unhappily, the unfortunate gentleman ended his life in the Friary House by a pistol-shot, and the chair stained with his blood was long preserved in the house.

This ghastly relic was presented by George, Earl of Onslow, to the master's apartments in Abbot's Hospital, where it is still to be seen with the dark blood marks upon it undefaced. Strangely enough, Colwall was buried in the middle of the south aisle of St. Mary's, Guildford, and we can only suppose that his learning and importance gained for his remains the distinction of burial in consecrated ground, usually debarred to those who commit self-murder.

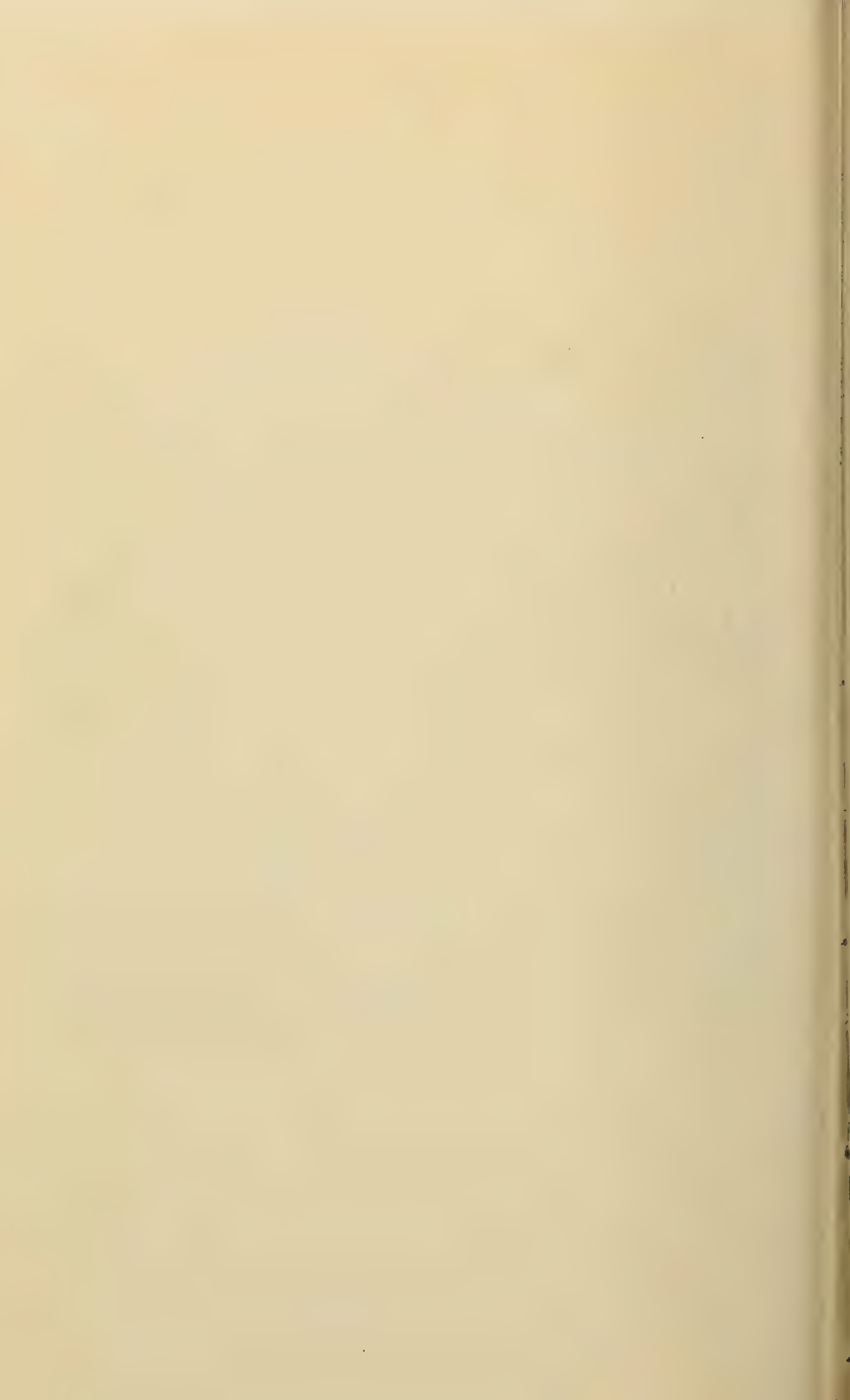
Colwall's estate was devised to trustees, and under a decree of Chancery the whole was offered for sale on July 15th, 1708. Brayley informs us that the manor

* Birch's Hist. Roy. Soc., vol. ii., p. 73.



THE PORCH OF THE FRIARY, 1816.

From a water colour drawing.



and park were purchased by the Hon. Thomas Onslow, eldest son of Sir Richard Onslow, Bart., the first Speaker of the House of Commons of that name. He departed the land, and divided it into four farms. The manor estates descended at his decease to Richard, Lord Onslow, his son. The Friary estates passed through the hands of several small owners, until at length they were purchased in 1736 by the Right Hon. Arthur Onslow, the second Speaker of the family. In his person, therefore, the whole estate (save a small portion owned by a man John Russell) was once more united.

In 1759, on June 2nd, an Act was passed settling and limiting the use of the estate,* and the property became a portion of the entailed Onslow estate. In 1780 the house built by Lord Annandale, which Russell in his third edition, page 145, most strangely describes as of Gothic order, instead of Renaissance, was altered. Russell states that the pinnacles had already been removed and modern windows inserted, and that this much spoilt the appearance of the house.

Two interesting water-colour sketches, in the possession of Mrs. Butler, of Guildford, which have been most kindly lent, show the old house and the porch after this alteration.

The picturesque dormer windows and gables have disappeared; the windows below are plain and ugly; the string course and other stonework had been removed from the doorways, and the whole front either covered with stucco or painted, and the flint decoration entirely obscured. The house at that date looked extremely plain, and the fine clump of trees at the entrance and the quaint palisading around had all gone, so that the house had a stern military look about it.

There was evidently an important room in the house,

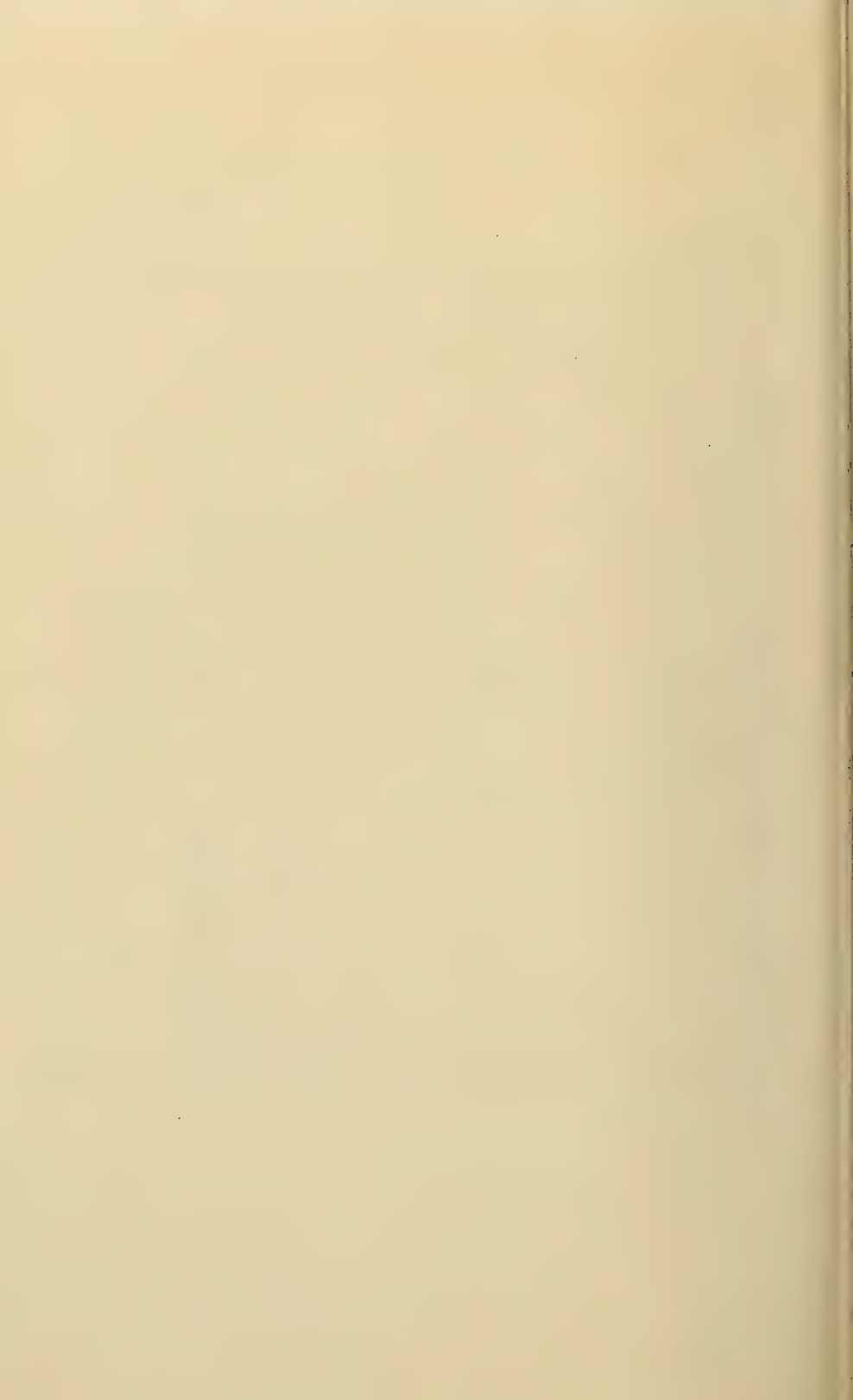
* Jour. House of Com., xxviii. 625.

as Russell states that assemblies and public breakfasts were held there. A further alteration took place in 1794, when the house was converted into barracks ; and then Russell tells us with puzzling complication that 'the chapel which had been used for a barn many years now lodges a troop of soldiers.'

We do not think this means that the chapel of the Friars was still remaining, as we know George Austen in 1606 promised to pull down this building, and we also know that the land was referred to later on as a vacant site in the Royal Grants to Lord Annandale, but we imagine the chapel Russell mentions must have been the private chapel of Lord Annandale's house, then remaining. It is, however, possible, as Mr. Kerry suggests, that the new house was dovetailed into the old, and only such portions of the Friary pulled down as interfered with the general plan, but in this case we hardly think the site would have been termed in the grants the empty, void, or bereaved (viduous) site of the old Friary. During the time that the building was used as cavalry barracks it was again honoured by the presence of royalty—George IV. (when Prince of Wales), the Dukes of York, Cumberland and Cambridge, visited and stayed in the place. On one occasion Elfi Bey, the Mameluke chief, with a numerous suite in splendid costume, came on a visit of respect to the colonel and officers of the 23rd Dragoons, then stationed there, Elfi having been gallantly rescued by that regiment when in Egypt. On this occasion a public breakfast was given. In 1818 the barracks, capable of containing a regiment 800 strong, were pulled down, and also all that remained of Lord Annandale's erection, and the stones, buildings and materials sold by Verrall and Son, in 612 lots, on May 7th, 1818, on the spot. The catalogue was printed by the Russells, and filled 70 pages.



THE FRIARY IN 1816,
WHEN USED AS CAVALRY BARRACKS.
From a water colour drawing.



The ground was let to Mr. W. Elkins, and used by the public, through his kindness, as a cricket and pleasure-ground. In 1840 the whole site was sold by the Government, the avenue of elms cut down and buildings erected in all directions. The late Mr. James Mangles bought much of the land, and laid out the street then called Friary Place, and on some of the precinct the Wesleyan Chapel was erected. No vestige of the early glory of the interesting building now remains.

An earthen pot of human bones was discovered on May 29th, 1781, and a leaden urn containing a heart preserved in spirit was exhumed at a later date. A skeleton and the bead of a rosary have also been found on the site. Guildford Manor Farm preserves the name of the old Manor and Park and possibly some of the stonework in North Street, and detached pieces of stone mouldings to be seen in some of the houses, may have belonged to Lord Annandale's house, but beyond that we have only the windows in Abbot's Hospital, Friary parish—a parish without a church since the days of the friars—and Friary Street, to remind us in this generation of the old home of the Dominican Friar Preachers in Guildford.

CHAPTER V

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, ITS CHAINED LIBRARY, AND THE EARLIEST MENTION OF CRICKET.

THERE are not many Grammar Schools that can boast of so early a foundation as the one at Guildford.

Its original endowment came from one Robert Beckingham, a wealthy and generous grocer in the City of London. We hardly know anything whatever as to this person save that he was apprenticed to one Richard Rud, and that in 1486, in the time of 'Sir Thomas Hyll Alderman, Robert Ryvell and John Stark being Wardens of the Company,' he was admitted a freeman of the City of London in the Grocers' Company, and the usual fee of 3s. 4d. was paid for his admission to the freedom.

He appears to have become a very wealthy man and to have continued a grocer and attached to his company, and we know that he died November 5th, 1509. He had a wife named Elizabeth, but her surname is not known, and he had a brother, Richard Beckingham, but does not seem to have had any family of his own. We learn from his will that his mother had married a second time and to one Robert Taillor, and we also learn that he had a godson and seems to have had charge or guardianship of two children, John and Joan Wyley, for whose maintenance and charge he made special bequests.

A pious and a generous man he certainly was, as evidenced by his many bequests to religious bodies, to the Church and to various altars, as also by his bequests not only to his executors and their families but also to his

servants and dependents, but it is not at all clear why he placed so important a benefaction in the town of Guildford.

It is probable that in the friendship he had for a certain Thomas Polsted, who resided in Stoke parish, the reason for his selection of this town may be found. Polsted was one of the executors to the will of Beckingham and was also an executor to the will of Beckingham's wife Elizabeth, and he was evidently a great friend of the family, as in his own will he bequeathed money for perpetual Masses to be said not only for the souls of himself and his own relations but also of Robert and Elizabeth Beckingham. Polsted was buried in Stoke Church, and the following was the inscription over his tomb :

Of your Charity pray for the Soules of Thomas
Polsted and Agnes his wyfe the which Thomas
decessyed the XVday of March Ao D'ni 1528.
Whose soul J'hu pardon.

It is not clear whether Polsted was any relation to Beckingham nor can we at present find out the surname of his wife Agnes through whom the relationship may perchance have come. Polsted had one daughter, Margaret, and she married John Maynard, citizen and mercer of London, and in his will there again appears a reference to Masses being said for the soul of John Beckingham his friend.

It may therefore have happened that Margaret Polsted going to London to her new home made the acquaintance of the worthy grocer Beckingham. She may have introduced him to her father and mother, and he may have been invited down to Guildford to see them and thus have got interested in the place and aware of the want of provision for a school in the town. Possibly, he may have himself taken a small house in the place as a

country cottage, and this may have been the one that he gave eventually to the town, but all this is necessarily surmise resting upon the certain facts of the acquaintance of Polsted, his wife, his daughter and his son-in-law, with the wealthy grocer who so materially assisted the old town close to which they dwelt.

The original papers of the Grammar School tell us that Robert Beckingham during his 'liefte time' gave to the town a messuage and garden close to the Castle Ditch value at that time 7 Marcs, *i.e.*, £4 13s. 4d., for the foundation of the School, and this gift appears to have been made in 1507, so that date would really appear to be that of the original foundation of the School.

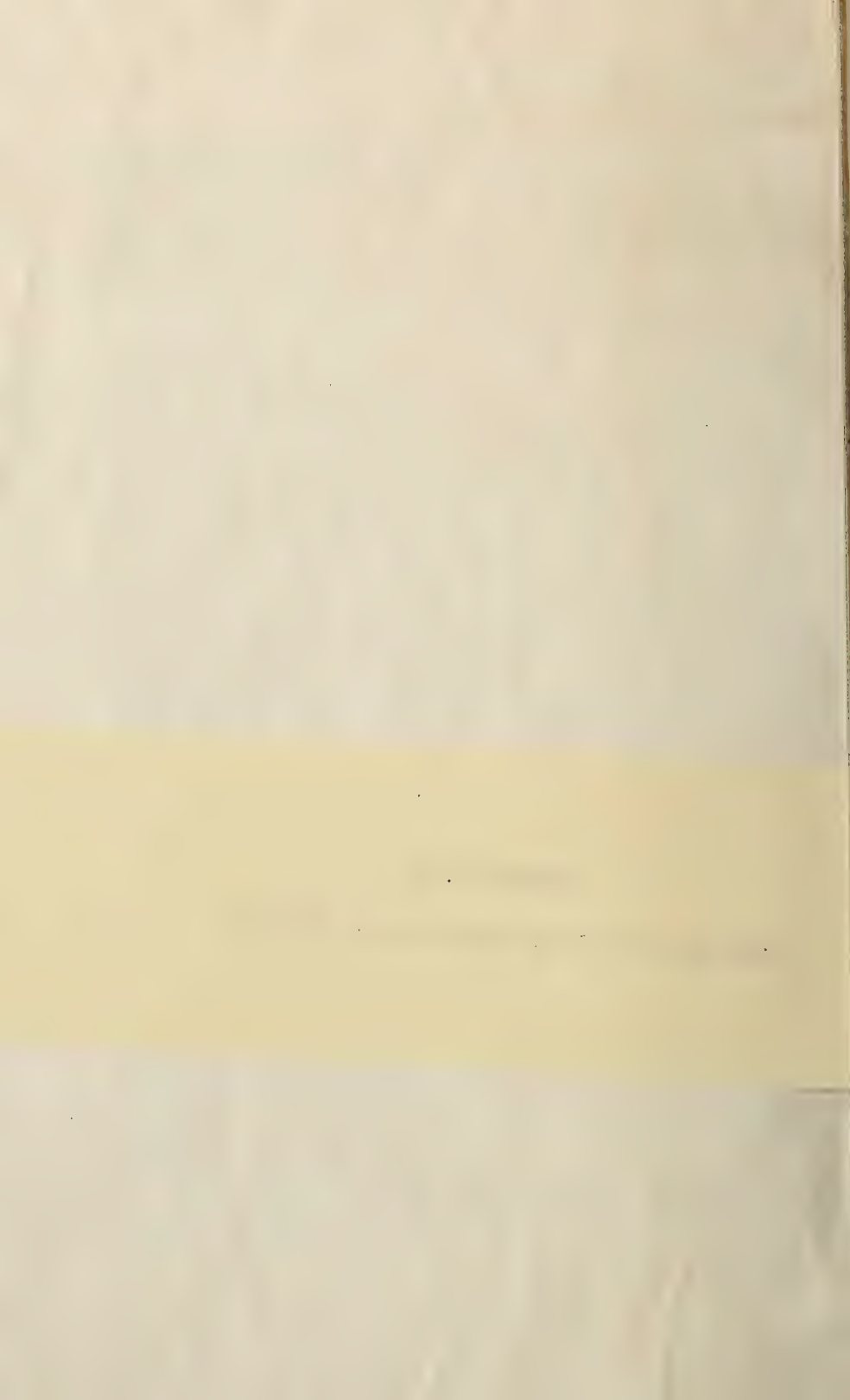
There are notes in the Record Office of a deed and fine dated St. John's Day (June 24th), 22nd year of Henry VII. (1507), conveying a house and garden at Guildford from Robert Beckingham, grocer, to John Polsted, and a similar one conveying land in the parish of St. Olave, Southwark, and it is probably the former one which records the original gift to Guildford.

It is by no means clear, however, either from the town records or Grammar School's books, whether anything was done with this gift at the time and it would seem possible that it was too small for the purpose, but a couple of years afterwards Beckingham showed his desire to still further benefit the place by making a substantial bequest towards the maintenance of his Free School. It is only quite lately that the author has been able to find the will of the founder and, as it is a very important and interesting document, it is given in full at the end of this book, together with the will of Elizabeth Beckingham, an abstract of the will of Polsted, and the deed executed by Beckingham's executors.

The majority of the bequests made by Beckingham had reference, it will be seen, to the parish of St. Olave,

ERRATUM

Page 92, line 17, for 'JOHN' read 'THOMAS.'



Southwark, where he desired to be buried, but, in the event of a certain brotherhood of Our Lady in that parish not being constituted by the parishioners into a corporation within two years after his decease, he bequeathed certain property which he had otherwise left to this brotherhood (after the decease of his wife Elizabeth) 'to make a free schole at the towne of Guldford.' It would appear that the corporation he expected was never constituted and his executors, after waiting rather more than the specified time to see whether it would be formed, decided to carry out the alternative course suggested in the will and to establish the Free School in Guildford. This they proceeded to do in the fourth year of Henry VIII., and the very interesting and instructive deed by which they carried out this foundation is still in the possession of the Governors of the School, and a full transcription of it has been given in the appendix to this book, inasmuch as it does not appear to have ever before been transcribed.

It will be noticed in the deed that the executors speak of the maintenance rather than the foundation of the School, as though the small foundation was actually in existence, as it appears to have been, and they then proceed to invest the Mayor of the place with the rents of these lands and place upon him and the inhabitants of the town the duty of ever afterwards maintaining the School, calling upon the actual owners of the lands in question to carry out the duties of such maintenance if ever the town should neglect its duties.

The clauses which provide for the election of new Trustees, on the death of the old ones, to be selected from 'the most worshipful honest, sad and discreet gentilmen dwelling next the town and the most honest and substantial brethren of the town' are quaintly worded, and it is also worthy of attention that the executors laid down

a strict rule enjoining the commemoration of the founder and his wife and 'the souls of all the benefactors and maintainers of the School' twice daily at the opening and at the closing of the School.

It would also appear by the final clause that the Friary was given some connection with the School, and that the third part of the deed was held by the Prior in order, it is probable, that a supervision over the carrying out of the religious enactments may have been exercised by him.

The lands at Bromley and Newington were unfortunately not actually conveyed but only fee farm rents of them at fixed sums, and these sums, as regards the Bromley lands, still remain the property of the School, but the lands at Newington have been lost and they did not belong to the School when Manning and Bray wrote their history of the county in 1804.

The revenues at first amounted to over £20 per annum, but there still remained the difficulty as to where the School-house was to be erected.

Probably for a few years the house given by Beckingham was used as a school and the income, according to the town books, was supplemented by the Mayor and approved men out of their funds, in order that the School should be maintained, but in 1520 a change took place.

On the 3rd of September in that year the Mayor and approved men gave a parcel of land adjoining the ditch of the Castle for the purpose of a school-house and upon it a school-house and a residence for the school-master were erected.

The plot of land given by the Mayor in 1520 is thus described: '140 feet of a size in length, 129 feet of a size in breadth at the north and east end of the same parcel of land, and 60 feet of a size in breadth about the

middle of the same parcel of land, and 48 feet of a size in breadth at the south end of the same parcel of land, and lieth on the south part of the said towne adjoining to the ditch of the Castle towards the east and the tene-ment some time occupied by John Mounter and late John Snellinge likewise towards the east ; and the highway there towards the north and in part of the west ; upon which parcel of land an house was built and occupied by Richard Wright, shereman.'

It seems to be likely from the phraseology of the deeds that this parcel of land given by the Mayor and approved men was close to, even if not adjoining, the original gift of Robert Beckingham and it is certain that here it was that the first School-house was erected.

It is not at all clear where this original school-house was situated, but, so far as the author has been able to trace, it was close to the land now occupied by the Town Baths.

According to the rent roll of the School, in 1671, the house once used as a school-house was occupied by one John Larkin and was the property of the Governors of the School and yielding a rent of twenty shillings a year, but since that date its history is not known.

There is no estate in Castle Street now belonging to the School, and either the original gift of Beckingham was sold after 1671 or the property has been lost.

There are no rent rolls in existence to explain the matter, and most of the early records of the School have been lost long ago, while those that remain are in very sad condition and some of them can hardly be deciphered.

It was thought at one time that, when the new plot of ground was purchased, the old estate of the School was sold, but it is quite clear that this was not the case, as, long after the new building had been completed, the

entries of the property belonging to the School include both the site of the old School-house (given by the Mayor) and another property close by (the one given, no doubt, by Beckingham), but what became of them later on, it is impossible to say.

Few charities have so suffered through the carelessness of trustees and the fraudulence of officials as has this one, and the Charity Commissioners some years ago, when they investigated the affairs of the School, stated that a large proportion of valuable estate had been lost for ever through the bad management of trustees of long ago. There is a fixed ground-rent now belonging to the School, arising out of a property, an undetermined part of which is in Castle Street, and it is quite possible that some of the freehold property which in 1671 belonged to the School has been at some time exchanged for fixed ground-rents such as this one.

Whatever may have been the reason, the estate in Guildford given by Beckingham no longer belongs to the School, and it is the ground-rents at Bromley that keep alive the memory of that great benefactor.

In 1550 the endowment of the School was augmented by a gift from Henry Polsted, the son of Thomas Polsted (dated 1 July, 1550, 4 Ed. VI.), who gave 'two messuages neare the pillory in the parish of St. Mary for its maintenance worth £4 15s. a year,' but the property, even with this addition, was not sufficient to maintain the School, and it was still a heavy burden upon the funds of the town.

We have seen in a preceding chapter that the Dominican Friars had charge of the education of the town; and, by the suppression of the monastic houses, Guildford, like many other places, had lost very valuable assistance in education and the presence of teachers warmly interested in the work. The endowment of various grammar

schools in the kingdom by Edward VI. was at its very best only an attempt to remedy the evil created by the sacrilegious spoliation of Henry VIII., and to give back to the various towns some of the property which the friars resident in their midst had used so wisely. Two, if not three, monastic establishments had been suppressed in Guildford, and it was fitting that some reparation should be made by the King and some of the ill-gotten revenue of the Church devoted to the maintenance of a school. The burden of maintaining the School being felt so severely in Guildford, the Mayor and approved men petitioned the King for a royal charter for Beckingham's school. They secured the good services of William, Marquis of Northampton, then Warden of the Manor and resident in the Royal Manor House in Guildford and of Sir William More of Loseley; and the result of their suit was the deed dated 27th January, 1552-3 granting to the town for ever the sum of £6 13s. 4d. per annum—a rent formerly belonging to the chantry of Stoke d'Abernon—and £13 6s. 8d., a rent formerly the property of two chantries at Southwell, and these rents are still received by the Governors, and are fixed and unalterable charges. The appointment or masters to the School was vested by the charter in the Mayor and approved men of the town, and the Warden for the time being of the King's Manor; and for the making of proper statutes for the governance of the School these officials were to unite with themselves the aid of the Bishop of Winchester.

The building was now considered too small for the needs of the place, and it was felt that a far larger plot of ground was required, and a better and larger building.

Accordingly, on the 28th of July, 1555, purchase was made by the governing body of the School—that is, by the Mayor and approved men—of the land upon which

the present School-house stands ; and on September 30th of the same year a further purchase of three acres of land or thereabouts was made from John Parvish adjoining the land bought in July, and at that time a garden ; and this now forms part of the playground and garden of the School.

Two years later the new buildings were begun. It would appear that when the new buildings were decided upon, the old ones were placed upon the market, but it is not clear whether they were sold or not. Part of the land on which the School then stood seems to have been sold and part retained ; but, as already stated, the actual house used as the original school belonged to the Governors down to 1671.

The history of the erection of the School-house can be gathered from a manuscript belonging to the Mayor and Corporation of Guildford, called :

‘A Monument for the Schole of Guldeford, beinge An historicall discourse wherein the pryvileges, charters, donations, and rights, of the same Schole are conteyned, the Fownder and Benefactors thereof recorded, the litigious titles clered, doubts resolved, and other matters importinge the state thereof collected by the study, travell, and charge, of George Austen.’

The dedication, ‘To the worshipfull his lovinge bretheren the Maior and approved men of Guldeforde,’ is dated 20 December, 1607. The work, the nature of which is well described in the title, consists of transcripts of conveyances and other legal documents, interspersed with some personal details and recollections, often of great value.

This manuscript states that : ‘The maior and approved men of Guldeforde . . . didd in [1557] begynne at there own costes and charges to builde and reare the large Rome nowe vsed for the Schole house, with the great Chamber and garrett ouer the same, and the same

healed* with Horsham stone, and therein made many verie faier windowes of ffree stone, well glased, the walles of which Scholehouse are all of Brick and stone of a very strong, statelie, and faire buildinge, the charges whereof didd amount to above fflower hundred markes.'†

This, the building which forms the south side of the present quadrangle, was succeeded by the erection of the west wing, begun in 1569:

'John Austen . . . sometyme maior of Guldeford, findinge a want of the Romes intended to be buylded for the Scholemaster and vssher, as is before mencioned, and seinge noe liklyhode . . . that the Townesmen could performe the same, having contributed according to his habilitie to the buildinge of the saide large Rome, didd procure . . . by his travell and earnest indeavour divers somes of money amounting in the whole to the some of cvj*li*. xiijs. iiij*d*., which he truly and faythfullie disbursed in buyldinge of the houses, sellar, Romes, lodgings, and Chimneys, nowe called the Scholemaster his lodginge, and nowe vsed and enjoyed by the Scholemaster; which he began to builde in the yere [1569], the same buildinges beinge all of Brick and Stone of a stronge and faier buildinge of three storyes highe covered with Horsham stone, and in all poyntes answerable to the former large Rome, and buylded at the west end of the saide large Rome or Scholehouse, and extendeth it self from the Scholehouse northwardes to the high strete of Guldeford. But yet not fynished by him in such as he purposed, and as nowe it is, because he was prevented by death.'‡

The east wing, and a building to connect the east and west wings, were next undertaken, by a fresh benefactor, in 1571:

* The verb 'to heal' is still used in Surrey in the sense of 'to cover.'

† Austen MS., paragraph 25, p. 35.

‡ *Ibid.*, paragraph 29, p. 37.

‘William Hamonde Esquire, sometyme Maior of Guldeforde, of the naturall love and affection which hee didd bere to the saide Towne and Schole, didd at his owne costes and charges bulde the house, Romes, lodgings, Chymneyes, and Storyes, nowe called the vsshers lodgings, and nowe vsed and enjoyed by the vssher of the same Schole, the same buyldinge beinge also of Brick and Stone, of a very stronge and faire buildinge of three storyes high, covered with Horsham stone, in all respectes answerable to the Lodgings of the Scholemaster, savinge that there is noe Sellar to this: which lodgings are buylded at the Est end of the saide Scholehouse, and extendeth it self in length from the saide Scholehouse northwardes to the said high streete, which he began to buylde in the yere [1571]. He alsoe afterwarde at his owne costes and charges buylded a Gallery of Brick and stone with a very faire windowe of freestone adioynninge to the high street, and ledinge between the saide Lodgings of the Scholemaster and vssher, with a faire dore Rome of stone sett in the middest for a passage from the Street to the Scholehouse. All which he left vnfynished at his death.’*

These quotations show that the quadrangle had been set out by the united efforts of John Austen and William Hamond, but neither of them lived to finish his work. Subsequently, in 1581, Simon Tally, vintner, ‘finding the Romes and Lodgings buylded for the vssher by Mr. Hamond to lye longe vnfynished,’ supplied the woodwork required;† and, in 1582, Robert Brodbridge, clothier, ‘seinge those Romes and Lodgings soe repaired by the saide Symon Tally,’ glazed all the windows.‡ The west wing, however, begun, as we have seen, by John

* *Ibid.*, paragraph 36, p. 38, Mr. Hamond died in 1574.

† *Ibid.*, paragraph 39, p. 45.

‡ *Ibid.*, paragraph 40, p. 46.

Austen in 1569, together with the gallery intended by Hamond to connect the two wings, and so to complete the street-front, still remained unfinished. It was reserved for George Austen to complete his father's wing, and to adapt the gallery to the purpose of a library. He modestly records what he did as follows:

‘And because there is mencion made before of the Romes and Lodginges buylded by . . . John Austen for the Scholemaster his house, which was not fynyshed in his lyfe time, It nowe falleth out . . . to make mencion in this place howe and by whose meanes those Romes and Lodginges were fynyshed. For after the death of the saide John Austen the same lay many yeres vnfynished—(the vsshers lodginges beinge afterwarde buylded as before is specified were fynished long before this and many yeres vsed for the Lodginges and Romes for the Scholemaster)—wherevppon knowinge what travell and paynes the saide John Austen my father hadd taken to buyld the same, and seinge howe likely it was to fall to vtter decay, I didd consider what course might be taken to bring the same to like perfection, And in thend resolved to trye what might be gotten amongst the gentlemen of this country for that purpose, And findinge Sir William More before named alwayes very forward to yelde helpe for the same, I didd acquaint him with my purpose and desired his good furtherance therein, who didd not onely contribute towardes the same himself but also by his meanes there was procured from diuers gentlemen . . . their large benevolence towardes this work. . . .

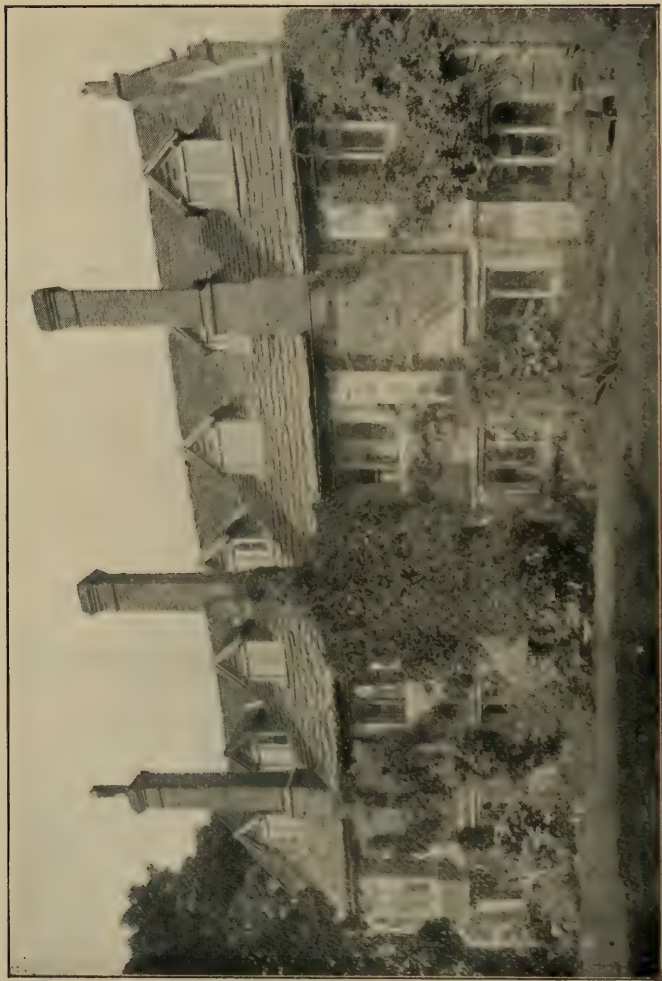
‘All which I truly and faythfully bestowed in the yere [1586] in fynishing of the saide Romes and Lodginges buylded by the saide John Austen, and alsoe in fynishinge the said Gallery buylded by the saide William Hamonde, the south side of which Gallery was taken downe, because the tymber worke therof being slender,

by long contynuinge vnfynished, was like to fall, and soe a newe frame [was] made for that South side, which beinge fynished, I converted to a Library, wherein all the bookes . . . geven by . . . John Parkhurst late Bishopp of Norwich, and diuers other bookes geven sithens by others hereafter mencioned, are nowe remayninge, which lodgings, Romes, and Gallery, howe and in what manner they are nowe fynished, I rather leue to the vewe and judgment of the world then to make any larg discription thereof here.*

So much for the building and all the excellent work done by George Austen and all his friends. Now for the government of the new School.

The original statutes of the School were settled by Thomas Bilson, then Bishop of Winchester. They are dated 21st of September, 1608, and are contained in twenty-five folio pages of manuscript. They are in the author's possession, having been sold by the trustees of the school for waste paper!! They contain many curious and interesting provisions. They provide that there shall be a resident master and usher, and that the scholars are not to exceed one hundred in number. No scholars are to be admitted until they have learned the rudiments of grammar called the *accidence*, 'within book and without book,' and they are to be taught the Greek and Latin tongues. Every scholar, it was ordained, should pay eightpence per annum, quarterly, one penny each, towards the provision of brooms and rods to be used in the school, and fourpence at the feast of St. Michael yearly, wherewith should be bought clean waxen candles to keep light in the school-house for the school-master, usher, and scholars to study by in the morning and evening in the winter-time. The scholars in the first four forms were commanded in all their speech to use the Latin

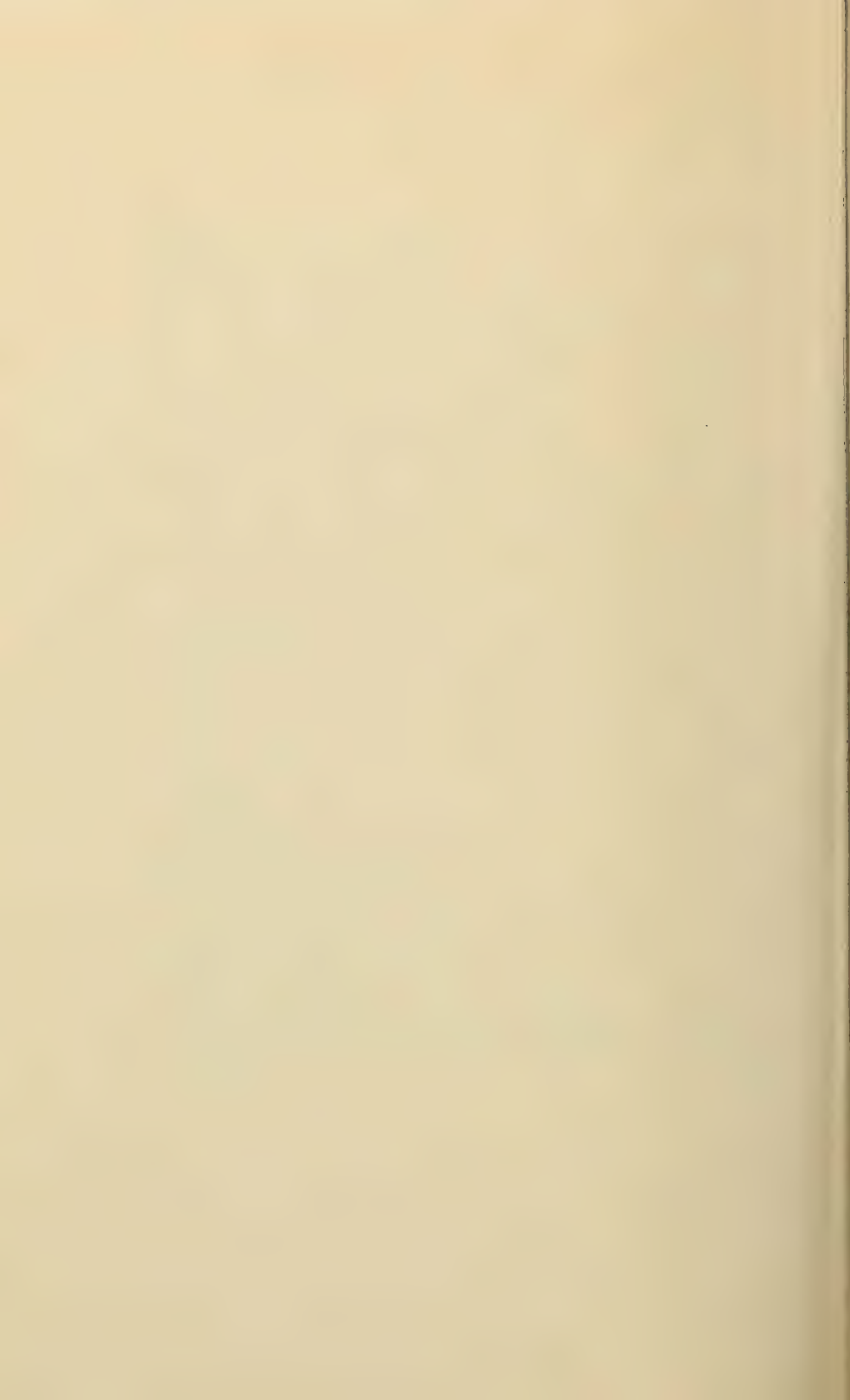
* Austen MS., paragraph 43, p. 49.



THE BACK OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

BEFORE RESTORATION.

From a photograph taken in the Garden in 1880.



tongue and no other, except the master should license and appoint them to speak in English, and every Saturday afternoon they were to be instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, that the seeds of religion might be sown in their hearts; the more learned of them were, on these occasions, to con by heart some catechism in Latin, and the meaner sort some smaller task in English. They were to attend at the school from March 1st to September 1st at six in the morning, and continue until eleven, and in the afternoon at one, and continue till five, but from September till March they were to go at seven in the morning, and continue until eleven, and in the afternoon before one, and tarry until five. School was always to be opened by prayer, and also closed at night in the same way. All the boys were to be taught to cast accounts perfectly.

The statutes governing the School continued in force till 1835, when the new statutes were signed by the Bishop of Winchester on the 11th of December. The connection of the School with the bishops of the diocese continued from the time of its foundation down to 1889, when it was severed by the Charity Commissioners, who propounded a new scheme for the governance of the School.

Under this new scheme, the repair of the buildings was undertaken, and a new schoolroom was formed out of the old dining-hall, and greatly improved by the removal of the dormitory above it. A considerable part of the old schoolroom was left intact that it might be used as a hall for the gathering of the scholars, or for roll-call, and a portion of it was adapted into a drawing-room for the head master, and was divided off from the remainder by a wall.

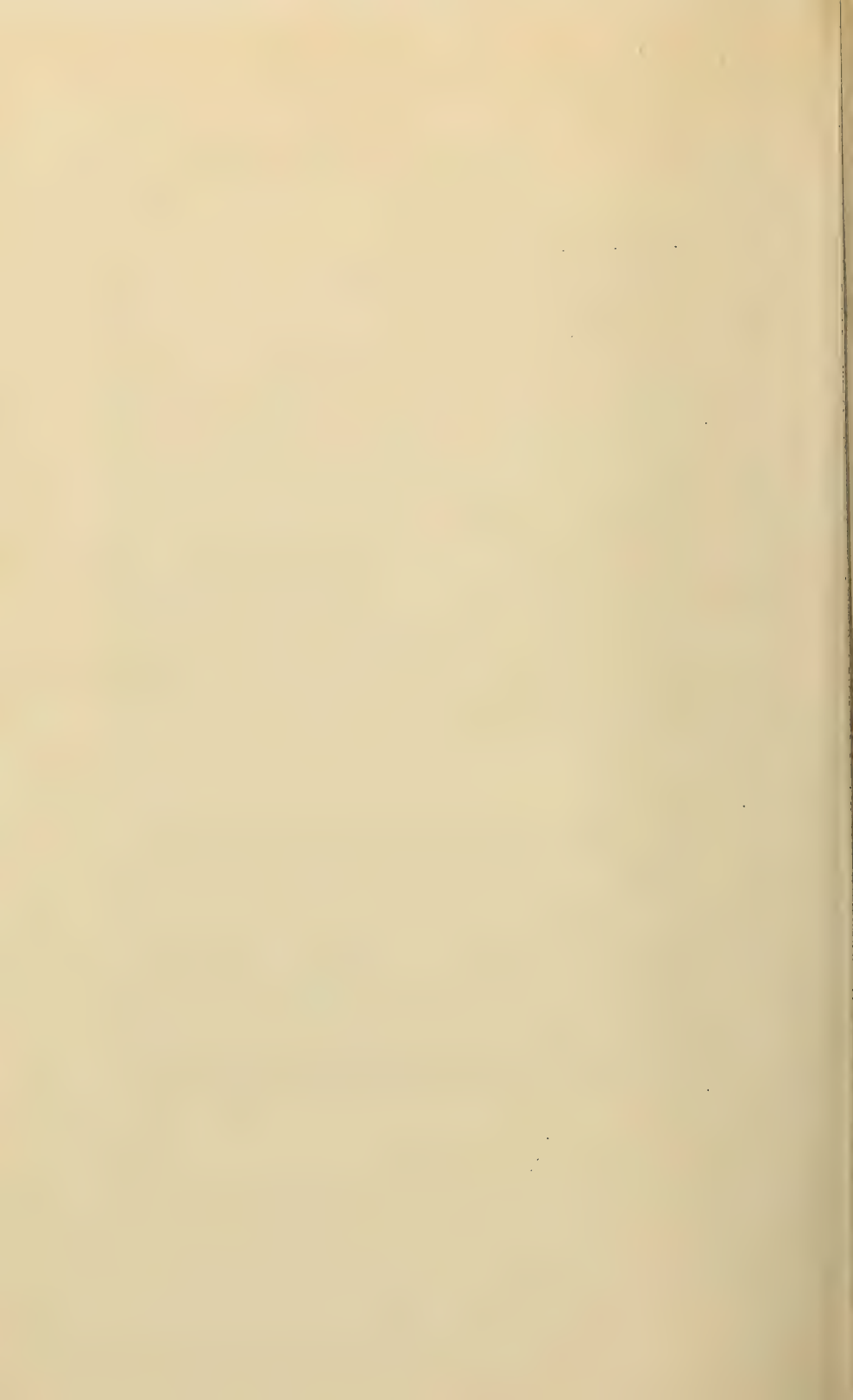
Very many great and distinguished men have received the ground-work of their education in this school.

Among them we find Robert Abbot, Bishop of Salisbury ; George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury ; Sir Maurice Abbot, Lord Mayor of London ; John Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich ; Henry Cotton, Bishop of Norwich, and his brother William, Bishop of Exeter ; Robert Parkhurst, Lord Mayor of London ; Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons ; Robert Horne, Bishop of Winchester ; Richard Valpy, D.D., the eminent Greek scholar, grandfather of the present chairman to the Governors ; Douglas McKenzie, Bishop of Zululand ; Sir George Grey, Premier of New Zealand ; Dr. Edmund Piggott, Head Master of Burford Grammar School, and many others. An Archbishop, six Bishops, a Speaker, two Lord Mayors, a Greek scholar of no mean reputation, a Head Master, and a Colonial Premier of considerable distinction, form a list of old boys of which any Grammar School may well be proud.

The gallery to which George Austen refers in his interesting manuscript is the long room over the porch, facing into the High Street, and measuring nearly thirty-two feet long and about twelve feet six inches broad. On the north side it is lighted by the lofty window of six lights divided by a transome built by Hamond in 1571 ; on the south side, which is of wood, there were originally two long low windows, each of four lights. These still exist, but have been partially blocked up. The room is at present entered from the west wing only, but, as Dr. Willis Clark pointed out in an important article on the School Library, the words used in the account of its construction imply that it could be entered at each end, and in fact, until the recent repairs took place, a door led into it from the east wing. This was the room intended for the Parkhurst Library, an important gift of books made by John Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich (1560-1575), to his native town, by his



THE GREAT HEAD MASTER,
REV. H. G. MERRIMAN, D.D., 1823-1887.
HEAD MASTER OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 1859-1874.



will dated 1st February, 1573. The extract from the will relating to the town of Guildford is as follows :

...Item, I gyve to the Towne of Guilforde where I was borne a greate Bowle of Siluer and gilte...

Item I gyve to the Lybrarie of the same Town ioyning to the Schole the most parte of all my Latten bookes whereof shalbe made a Catalogue as shortelie as I maye God sending me lief. All my Englisshe books I bequeath to my two Bretherne Christofer Parkhurst and Nicholas Parkhurst...

Austen records the bequest, and the serious difficulties which beset the acquisition of it in the following words :

John Parkhurst late Bishopp of Norwich... beringe a most naturall love and affection to this towne, where he was borne, and verie carefull for the saide Schole in his life tyme, geving Twenty poundes towardes the buyldinge of the said Schole,... didd also by his last will and Testament left in wryting geve to the Maior and approved men of Guldeford his best bason and ewer of silver [etc., etc.]...and besides gave all his bookes of divinitie other then his English bookes to the saide Schole to remayne in the Library, to be made for the saffe keepinge of them in that Schole.

But his will toke not that effect which he ment, by reason that those which he appoynted to be executors of his saide last will didd after his death use all the Cullorable shiftes and practises they could to defraud his good meanynge, whereby the saide Maior and his bretheren were dryven to send sondry tymes to there great charges to Norwich to the executors of the saide Bishopp, to require the

performance of the saide will towardes this towne and Schole ; but all wolde not prevayle, and therefore were inforced to complayne to the Lord Treasurer, by English bill in the Exchequor, wherevpon the executors were sent for by proces and made there apparance and answer, and vpon the hearing of the matter the same was referred to the orderinge of Sir Walter Mildmaye knight then Chauncelor of the saide Exchequor, whoe ordered that the saide executors shold deliuer the saide Bason and Ewer of Silver and all the bookes given by the saide Bishopp and a some of money. The certenty I remember not, But I am assured the money was not soe much by Thirtie poundes as the Costes and Charges in lawe and in travaile there aboutes hadd cost them. And yett when all sholde be deliuered according to the saide order, then didd Doctor Freek then Bishopp of Norwich deteyne the saide bookes (finding them in his house) for delapidacions, vntill letters were procured from some of her Maiestyes privie Counsell, requiring him to deliuer them. And yett didd he make Choice of very many of the best bookes, and kept them still to his owne vse, and deliuered the rest, which were brought to this Schole and placed in the Library purposely fynished for the same where they still remayne. A true catalogue of all which bookes is here vnder written.*

The will says distinctly that the books were given to the library of the town adjoining to the School, and Dr. Willis Clark has pointed out that this implied the library was a public one, and not merely for the benefit of the School in which the donor had been educated. This view derives confirmation from the fact that a staircase

* Austen MS., paragraph 41, p. 46.

used to lead down from the east end of the gallery to the court, so that a person wishing to enter the gallery was not obliged to pass through the lodgings of either the school-master or the usher. The staircase, however, was removed about thirty years ago.

It is the existence of this Parkhurst Library that constitutes one of the two unique features attached to the Guildford Grammar School. The books are now safely lodged in a delightful room specially arranged for them, but they have passed through many vicissitudes. As we have just seen, it was comparatively few of the books actually left by the Bishop that came to the School, but this collection was supplemented by various other benefactions of books which continued in slow succession from 1578 down to 1745. A list is given in Manning and Bray's 'History of Surrey' of the various persons who gave books to the library.

George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, is amongst the number, and the rectors of the various parishes round about Guildford were other benefactors.

Of the 484 volumes in the collection, only a very few are of striking rarity or value. There was at one time in the library a work printed by Caxton entitled 'The History of Troy,' but it has disappeared; and the oldest book now remaining is one entitled 'Nova Legenda Angliæ,' printed by Wynkyn de Worde in 1500.

The great feature, however, of the library, is that it possesses a considerable number of chained books—some 89 in all. The other chained libraries in England are those in Hereford Cathedral, All Saints', Hereford, Grantham Church, Wimborne Minster, Bolton Grammar School, and Turton Church; and of the seven places Guildford ranks fifth as regards the number of chained works it contains.

The collection is also the only one in England com-

posed of books presented by old boys to the school where they had been educated. It is clear that the purpose of the library was originally for the use of the boys ; and one donor, John Birchall, a clothier of Guildford, who was also Mayor of the town when he gave a Greek lexicon to the library, expressly stated that it was for the use of such scholars in the School as learned the Greek tongue.

Nothing is known of the book-cases which Austen made in 1586, but we are told that in 1648 new oak book-cases were made, and Mr. Arthur Onslow gave eight oaks for that purpose, his gift being commemorated by an inscription which appeared in the buildings, and was dated April 6th, 1650. What became of these book-cases no one can tell, but for many years the books were hopelessly neglected. They were stacked away in various cupboards and rooms, and at one time bestowed under the floor of the principal schoolroom, in order to be well out of the way. The senior scholars of the School were allowed to inspect them as curiosities and often to ill-treat them ; and successive masters, finding that the books were of no special practical value, paid little attention to them and gave little heed to their preservation. The present body of Governors took up the matter a few years ago, and Mr. Herbert Powell carefully catalogued the entire library, which numbers 484 volumes, and printed a catalogue of the books. At that time the binding of many of the volumes was carefully repaired and strengthened, and some treasures in the way of fragments of old manuscripts, and two perfect copies of Henry VIII.'s second proclamation ordering a Bible to be fixed in every church in the kingdom, were rescued from the binding of some of the sixteenth century volumes and framed and hung up in the library.

Inasmuch as not a single chained book is now to be seen

in any of our universities, and there are so few libraries of such interesting literature remaining in the kingdom, it is of the greatest possible interest that in Guildford we should possess so venerable a relic of past times.

It appeared at one time as though the new body of Governors were as likely to be indifferent to the claims of this library as their predecessors had been, and strong efforts were made in the local press by the present writer and by Dr. J. Willis Clark, the Registry of the University of Cambridge, to stir up some enthusiasm respecting the books. Such enthusiasm was at length kindled, and all Guildfordians owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Powell for the work he has carried out.

The other claim to notoriety that Guildford Grammar School possesses, consists in the fact that the earliest mention of cricket occurs in connection with the evidence of certain scholars from the Free School of Guildford in the fortieth year of Elizabeth. There was a long-continued law suit in the town with regard to the withholding of a certain garden plot in the parish of Holy Trinity, near to the north town ditch, which was claimed as part of the waste land of the town, and which had been withheld for forty years from the use of the inhabitants. In 1598 'John Derrick, gentleman, one of the Queen's majestie's coroners' for Surrey, aged fifty-nine, gave evidence that he had known the land for fifty years or more. He stated that it lay waste, and was used and occupied by the inhabitants of Guildford to saw timber in and for saw-pits, and for making frames of timber for the said inhabitants. He also declared that when he was a scholar in the Free School of Guildford he and several of his fellows 'did runne and play there at crickett and other plaies,' and also that the same was used for the baiting of bears in the said town until it was enclosed.

His evidence, which is very carefully recorded in the town books, forms the earliest mention of the game of cricket that Dr. Murray was able to trace for the purposes of his dictionary.

CHAPTER VI

THE TOWN CHURCHES

REFERENCE has already been made to the division of the town into three parts, and to the existence of a church in each of the three divisions. In the town books the three churches are frequently styled 'Upper, Middle, and Lower Church,' and these titles, which had a special force in Puritan times, when there was a strong objection to any allusion to religious dedications, still hold good in the present day, and many Guildford people invariably speak of the three churches by these ordinary appellations.

There is no actual record of the foundation of either of the three churches, although Dugdale states that the advowson of Holy Trinity belonged to the Priory of Merton in 1300. The list of rectors of this church, which has always been the principal one in the town, commences in 1304, but the principal source of information respecting the history of the church is from a transcription made in the time of Charles II. by one Richard Symmes, the Town Clerk, who took his information from some early churchwardens' books, which have since been lost.

This manuscript, part of which has been printed by Mr. Philip Palmer in his pamphlet on the church,* gives a good many points of interest respecting the sixteenth century building and its arrangements. The building originally had attached to it an important chantry, founded by Henry Norbrige, who was Mayor

* 'Some Records of the Churches and Parish of Holy Trinity, Guildford,' by P. Palmer, 1888.

in 1483, and was concerned in procuring the charter granted by Henry VII. to the men of Guildford. He appears to have been a person connected with Court circles, for in the foundation of his chantry the names of Elizabeth the Queen Consort ; Margaret Countess of Richmond, the King's mother ; Sir Thomas Bouchier, and Sir Reginald Bray, are associated with him in the Writ of Privy Seal which licensed the endowment. It is dated February 6th, 1486, and it endows a chantry priest to say prayers in Trinity Church for ever in the chauntry of Norbrige and Kingeston.

About half a century after the foundation of this chantry, it was suppressed by Act of Parliament in common with other religious institutions, and the property intended for its support passed to the Crown. Some of this property finally came to the Corporation of the town, but later on was exchanged by the Corporation for certain fee farm rents. The woods still known as the Chantry Woods, forming part of the Godwin-Austen estate on the Shalford Road, were an important part of this benefaction.

Another chantry belonging to the same church was founded by one of the Westons of Sutton Place, and the chapel, in which were buried nearly all the proprietors of the estate, still exists. This chantry was suppressed in the beginning of the reign of Edward VI., when the chaplain was granted a pension of five pounds a year for his life. The last of the Westons buried within the chapel died in 1782, bequeathing the estates to her near relative John Webb, who afterwards took the name of Weston, and from him they descended to their present owner, Mr. Philip Witham, through Captain Salvin recently deceased.

The estate is remarkable and almost unique among those in England, inasmuch as it has never passed out

of Catholic hands, and the Mass has been celebrated continuously in the Manor House from the earliest times down to 1876, when it was discontinued in the house on the erection of a church close by.

The Weston Chapel, attached to Holy Trinity Church, is still entirely the private property of the owner of the Manor of Sutton, and does not belong to the church, although it is now used as a vestry. On each occasion on which Holy Trinity Church has been enlarged, the claim of the Lord of the Manor of Sutton Place has been set forward, and his right to the separate ownership of this chapel has been acknowledged.

The old church of Holy Trinity, a view of which can be seen in Harris's South-west View of Guildford, 1738, had a ground plan very much resembling that of St. Mary's. Fragments of the buildings still exist, and are preserved in the porch of the present church, and the monuments in this porch were removed when the old church was destroyed. From time to time, during the last fifty years of its existence, it was repaired, but the repairs were not of a sufficiently structural character, and in 1740 it was reported that the church was unsafe.

The last service was held on April 19th of that year, and on the following Wednesday the steeple fell bodily through the roof of the nave. It is said that the verger of the church, on being told that the steeple had fallen, replied that it was impossible that this could have happened, inasmuch as he had the key in his pocket. This particular key, an unusually large one, is still preserved in the Guildford Institute. The catastrophe was witnessed by a great many people, as it was Guildford Fair Day and the High Street was crowded. Fortunately, however, no one was injured.

The church remained in ruins for nearly two years, and then steps for the demolition of the walls and chan-

cel were taken, and it was decided that the church should be rebuilt. It was not, however, till 1750, ten years after the accident, that the foundation stone of the new building was laid by the Mayor. The work went on for a year, and was then stopped for want of funds, and in 1755 it was decided to petition for an Act of Parliament to sell some Church property on the south side of the churchyard (on the site now covered by a draper's shop), and also to sell certain household goods belonging to the church.

The Rector opposed this course very strenuously, and refused to be present at the vestry meeting, but the Mayor took the chair, the Act of Parliament was obtained, and the property was sold. The Rector died in the same year, and was buried in the partly rebuilt church, and, twenty-three years after the destruction of the old building, the new church was first used for Divine service.

In 1869 some alteration was made in the building, the side galleries were removed, the windows altered from two rows to one, the pews lowered and rearranged, and the organ removed from the gallery and placed at the east end. After these alterations Bishop Wilberforce attended and re-opened the church. The new chancel was erected and the church was enlarged in 1888. Attention may be directed to the handsome iron-work outside the church, which dates from 1712, and in which are contained the initials of the churchwardens of the time, in wrought iron foliage work.

Archbishop Abbot's tomb is the most important monument within the church, and it was erected in 1635 by his brother, Sir Maurice Abbot, Lord Mayor of London. It does not now stand over the vault containing the remains of the prelate, but was removed further eastward when the new chancel was erected.



THE NORTH-WEST PROSPECT OF GUILDFORD, 1759.

From the engraving by John Russell.

The vault is underneath the pews where the brethren and sisters of the Hospital sit, and by accident was opened while the repairs were in progress in 1888. The Archbishop's remains were seen upon the floor of the vault in a coffin with the feet to the east; the form of the body clearly revealed, and the beard still apparently intact. About half-a-dozen people in the town were able, during the few minutes that the brick-work fell away, to look into the vault, and see this remarkable and not very common sight; the brick-work was then carefully replaced, and the vault, which had probably not been disturbed since 1633, was sealed up.

On the occasion of Abbot's funeral, which took place in Trinity Church at the particular request of the Archbishop, there was a very imposing ceremonial, and Laud, then Archbishop-Elect, was principal mourner, the High Street was hung in black, and almost all the townspeople joined in the procession, which was headed by the Officers of Arms from Heralds' College.

The monument represents the Archbishop at full length, in his archiepiscopal robes, under a canopy of six black marble pillars raised on pedestals of books piled up. Near by, on the south wall, is the brass commemorating the father and mother of the Archbishop, Maurice and Alice Abbot, who died in 1606.

Of their six sons, four acquired eminence; George, the Archbishop, Robert, Bishop of Salisbury, Maurice, Lord Mayor of London, and Anthony, Mayor of Guildford, while the eldest son, Richard, became the first Master of the Hospital founded by his brother in 1622, and John, the sixth son, was an important benefactor to the poor of the town by his will of 1654.

There is a fine memorial brass to Henry Norbrige and his wife (who founded the chantry already mentioned), upon the south wall of the church, dated 1512, and in

the north-east corner of the nave is the monument to Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons, erected to commemorate his connection with the borough of Guildford, and his generous benefactions to the church. His remains are not buried beneath the monument, but lie at Merrow.

On the north side of the tower entrance is the monument to Sir Robert and Lady Parkhurst, Sir Robert having been member for Guildford in the Long Parliament, and Lord Mayor of London in the eleventh year of Charles I. The monument opposite does not bear any name or date, but is believed to commemorate Lady Weston of Sutton Place, who was buried in the Weston Chapel in 1625. It is not at all clear when this monument was removed from the Weston Chapel.

In the rooms in the tower there existed for some time a town Blue-coat School. This school was originally established by Thomas Baker, a clothier, in 1578; he it was who erected the market-house for rye, and oats, known as Baker's market-house, occupying an open space in front of Holy Trinity Church. It was a building constructed solely of wood, and in the upper part of it the school was carried on. In 1758 it was removed, and a neat octagonal structure of brick and stone took its place.

At that time the School was temporarily suspended, but it was revived in 1762, and the endowment added to, by private subscription, in order that twenty boys should be clothed and educated by means of that charity. Later on, the octagonal building, which was found to be very much in the way, was removed, and about forty years ago the Blue-coat School ceased to exist, and the endowment was added to the funds given by Archbishop Abbot for the encouragement of the cloth industry and a little later on these two funds were used to create

Archbishop Abbot's School. The bell and other relics connected with the old school are still in existence.

It is probable that the oldest church in the town was on the site now occupied by St. Nicholas' Church. There is believed to have been a building upon that site with a round tower of Anglo-Saxon work, and it was probably there that the festival of St. Blaise was commemorated.

There is a reference to this festival in an anonymous chronicle of about 1400, in the British Museum, which speaks of High Mass conducted by the Dominican Friars on the festival of St. Blaise (February 3rd), and of a Guild Communion on the day following 'at the Mass at the church nigh unto the river, where the fulling took place.' It seems probable that this reference is to St. Nicholas.

The third day of February, the Feast of St. Blaise, was to the people of both Guildford and Godalming the great festival of the year. In 1222 the Council or Parliament of Oxford expressly prohibited all servile work on that day, and wherever the wool industry flourished it was specially observed.

Upon February 3rd there were both here and at Godalming great processions. Solemn High Mass at St. Mary's Church, conducted by the Dominican Friars, fittingly opened the day ; alms were given to the poor ; bonfires blazed upon the hills, and there was an entire cessation of labour throughout the day. In the evening the Gild-Merchant met for the election of the officers for the year, for Common Hall and a trade gathering, and for a feast thereafter ; and then early upon the next day the new officers attended at Mass, and made their corporate gild communion and offering. Down to Stuart times the festival continued its hold on the

people, even when the Gild-Merchant had merged into another body governing the town, and the wool industry showed signs of steady and rapid decadence.

In Norfolk, St. Blaise is similarly honoured and is represented on Norwich tokens ; and in Bradford, down to our own day, the procession is septennially observed, although now it is not regarded as a religious festival, nor does it include the old religious observances. That side of the festival, however, still remains both in Provence and Ragusa, where February 3rd is still religiously kept by the woolworkers ; while to the present day the Dutch Gild of Clothworkers meet on the Festival of St. Blaise, and upon that day corporately attend church with a mediæval style of procession, and afterwards elect their burgomaster and dine in common. St. Blaise has but three churches dedicated to his honour in England, but his effigy is often seen in stained glass, where he is generally represented seated in the midst of a variety of animals. A picture of him, by Monsignori, of Verona, is to be found engraved in Rossini's 'History of Painting,' and at Genoa a very fine painting of him is to be seen, by Carlo Maratta. In Westminster Abbey there was an important chapel dedicated to him and in the churches of the Orthodox Communion he is held in great veneration, and his *icons* are in great repute. The most elaborate rock-hewn monastery in the world (save, perhaps, in Egypt) is to be found in Apulia, near Brindisi, and is not only dedicated to St. Blaise, but contains some wonderful Byzantine coloured frescoes of scenes in his life, executed in 1197.

Even now St. Blaise has not been lost sight of in Surrey and a curious example of the use of his name came under our attention a short time ago.

This incident occurred not far from Guildford, in a village remote from the progress of modern civilization.

A child at a mid-day meal, whilst eating some fish, accidentally swallowed a bone, which stuck fast in the gullet. Ordinary simple remedies were applied, but the obstacle could not be moved, and suffocation seemed imminent. A wise woman of the village, however, was hurriedly sent for, and an old incantation used. Laying her hand on the child's throat, St. Blaise was called upon for aid, and the bone ordered to move either 'up or down in the name of Blaise' (or, as the woman pronounced it, Blazes), 'a man of God.'

We must decline to enter into controversial questions as to the value of the incantation, but in honesty are bound to record that the bone became looser, and with a gulp was swallowed. The power of that village wise woman is now fully recognised in the place, and an ancient tradition has been revived.

If we look into the pages of a Greek medical writer of the sixth century, Aëtius, we find there almost word for word this formula recommended and used, and we think it will be granted that it is a most interesting example of the survival of an old tradition to find, thirteen hundred years afterwards, the same formula in use in a Surrey village. Aëtius gives the words thus: 'O bone, if thou art a bone, or whatsoever else thou art, come forth! Blaise the Martyr, the servant of Christ, says to thee: "Either go downwards or come upwards."' "

St. Blaise has been for centuries a very popular saint in England. He is regarded universally as the patron of woolcombers, of all who suffer from diseases of the throat, and of wild animals. He was a Greek Bishop over the Christian Church at Sebaste (modern Sivas), in Armenia A.D. 289. Under the persecution of Diocletian he fled and took refuge in a cave in Mount Argæus, the haunt of bears and other fierce beasts. The creatures (so runs the story), completely subdued by the good old man,

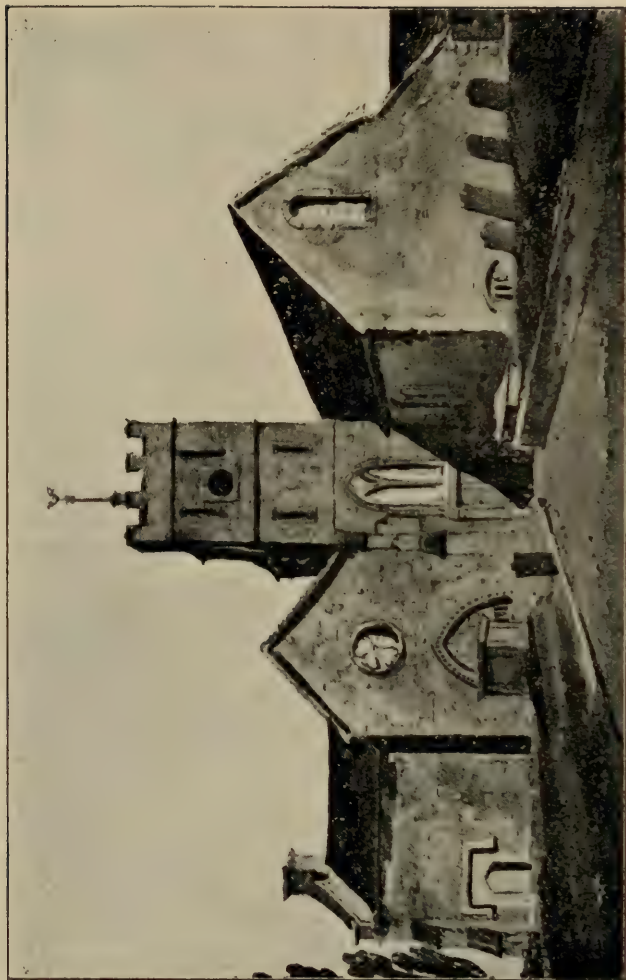
did him no harm ; but, coming morning by morning for his blessing, knelt around him while at his devotions.

The Governor of Sebaste, Agricolaus, was often sending his hunters into the mountains to collect wild beasts for the persecution of the Christians in the amphitheatre, and upon one occasion his men were witnesses of the startling sight.

St. Blaise was actually preaching to his wild friends and reproving them for rapacity and gluttony. He was seized by the hunters to be carried to the Governor, but on the way passed a poor woman whose child was choking from having partially swallowed a bone. The holy Bishop was appealed to, and, moved with compassion, placed his hand on the child's throat, and he was healed and restored to his mother. A little further on, we are told, he ordered a wolf immediately to restore to a poor woman her pig, which the creature was carrying off, and upon which her entire household depended.

The Governor, upon seeing the Bishop, ordered him to be scourged and starved, but the woman whose pig he had restored killed the animal and fed the Bishop in his dungeon, receiving the blessing of the old man and consequent prosperity. As St. Blaise did not starve, the cruel Governor ordered his flesh to be tortured with iron combs, such as were then used in that district for carding wool ; and, failing to subdue his courage or controvert his steadfastness, had him beheaded. The legend gives us the clues to the triple patronage possessed by the saint ; and, inasmuch as the wool industry was the staple trade of England, the explanation of St. Blaise's popularity is easy.

The round tower of St. Nicholas' Church disappeared at the beginning of the eighteenth century, and in 1801 John Russell says that the church had undergone very many alterations, and had had a new tower erected about a hundred years before.



EXTERIOR OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, 1834.

From a water colour drawing.

There were many occasions upon which the old church was useless for Divine service, as, owing to the low situation in which it stood, it was sometimes flooded with water for many weeks at a time, and in 1796 it was urgently necessary that some repairs should be carried out. Russell tells us that in that year the old pillars and arches were removed, the floor was raised three feet, and the church was re-pewed and re-opened for service in July, 1800.

For about forty years these repairs were considered sufficient, but the constant washing of the river round the foundations brought on serious structural defects, and, as the land upon which the church stood was originally a morass, there was danger that the whole building would give way and some serious accident be the result. In 1837 the greater part of the church was pulled down and a new church erected, but the old tower, which had been built in the latter part of the seventeenth century, was not taken down, but strengthened, and by the addition of new buttresses and cornices made to harmonise with the so-called Gothic building then erected. The result was a church which was considered very satisfactory at the time, but contrasted very unfavourably with the simple, stately building that had preceded it.

The new church was not much more secure than the one just destroyed. It was dark, inconvenient, and too small for the increasing size of the parish, and it was not at all fitted for the class of service desired by the parishioners. When Dr. Monsell was presented to the living in 1870, he set the building of a new church in hand forthwith, and designs were prepared for the work. The destruction of the Gothic church was carried out in his time, and the present building, on a somewhat higher site, nearer the High Street and further from the river, was commenced by him and completed by his

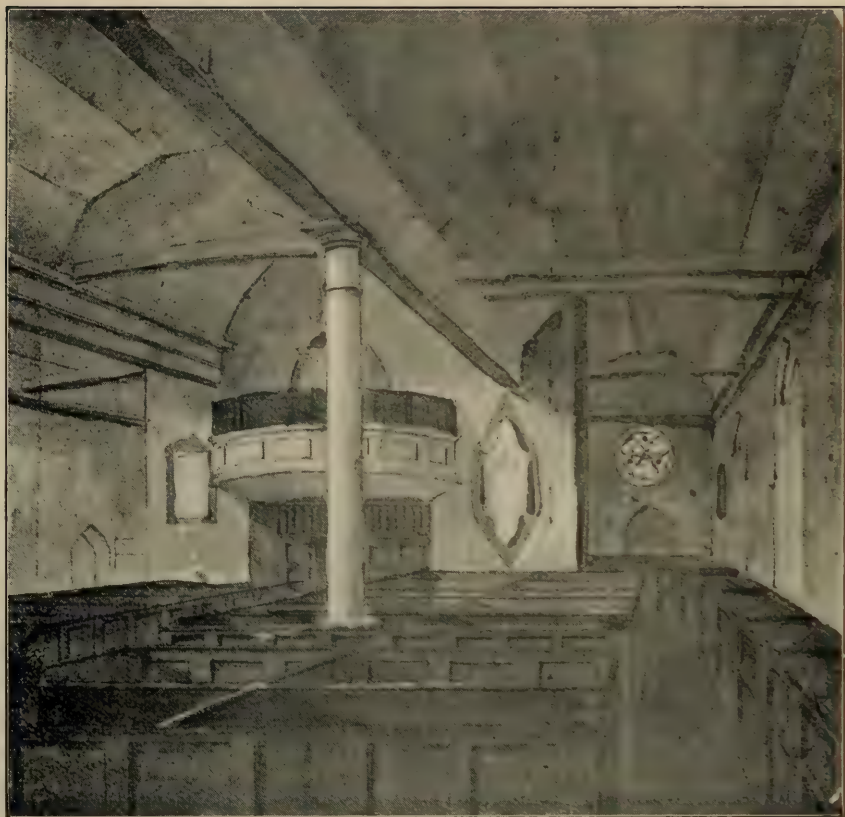
successors. It is, therefore, probably the fourth church in that parish.

On each occasion the Loseley Chapel was preserved and incorporated in the new building, and it is there that the most important monuments connected with St. Nicholas' remain. The ancient family of Brocas of Beaurepaire had an intimate connection with the parish of St. Nicholas, and two members of the family, Arnold and Bernard, were rectors. The monument to Arnold Brocas, 1395, still remains in the Loseley Chapel, but the brass plate to Bernard Brocas, 1368, has disappeared.

Beside this Brocas monument, the others in the Loseley Chapel are to various members of the More family, who own Loseley Park, and who have always retained the right of sepulture in this place. There is a monument to Sir Christopher More, 1549; one to Lady More, 1590; another to Sir William More and his wife, 1600; and others to later members of the family.

An interesting brass is in the porch commemorating Caleb Lovejoy, who left some property to his native parish for the benefit of the poor, now administered by the Lovejoy Trustees, and forming the endowment to an almshouse close at hand. He was born in the parish and educated at the Grammar School, but before the age of fifteen was removed to London, where he became a successful tailor and free of the Merchant Taylors' Company.

He is mentioned in the Exchequer Depositions as having been a waggoner to Oliver Cromwell, and it would appear that he was a contractor for the supply of waggons to Cromwell's army and a staunch Puritan, very much attached to the principles of the Commonwealth. The Depositions of the third and fourth year of James II. speak of Lovejoy ejecting the King's tenants as soon as he purchased the land he left to his Guildford trustees.



INTERIOR OF ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH, 1827.

From a water colour drawing by Hassell.

There is a rather curious history connected with the plot of land he bequeathed.

It was at one time occupied by the town house for the Priors of Lewes, but, previous to that time, the building had been the manor house of the De Warrennes, Earls of Surrey, who were Lords of Southwark, and part of it had been built by William, the first Earl, who founded the Priory of Lewes. After the dissolution, part of the site was occupied by the St. Olave's Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, and part became the Walnut-tree Inn.

In 1532, the Earl of Essex held the hostelry from the Crown, but, upon his fall, it was again divided, and the inn fell into the hands of one Adam Beeston of St. Olave's, a brewer. Cuthbert Beeston, his son, citizen and girdler of London, died seised of the inn, together with its garden and fifteen houses in the lane, held of the Queen in chief, and worth yearly £5 6s. 8d.

The next owner of it was Caleb Lovejoy, and he bequeathed it in 1676 to his trustees in Guildford. It was sold under the Act for re-building London Bridge, and the proceeds were used for the building of the alms-houses, but upon part of the land in 1757 was built the Carter Lane Chapel. When that was demolished for the new approaches to London Bridge, the congregation met in New Park Street Chapel, afterwards at the Surrey Gardens, and latterly at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, under the pastorate of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.

In imagination we may therefore picture, as Dr. Rendle points out, the Conqueror visiting his step-daughter at the house of her husband, the Earl de Warrenne; the town house of the Priors of Lewes, the foundation of the De Warrennes; the Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, and the hostelry of the Elizabethan inn, the Walnut-tree; and we may add to this series of

recollections, the residence of Oliver Cromwell's wagoner, the bequest to the trustees in Guildford, and the Baptist Chapel with its link in its turn with the Metropolitan Tabernacle, and so gain a long chain of circumstances connected with this plot of land.

Perhaps the only thing which now recalls the old name of the place is the scarce token struck by Ephraim Bull in Walnut-tree Lane in 1667, and it was the investigation as to the place mentioned on this token that led to the discovery of this series of links.

Of the early history of St. Mary's Church there is very little documentary information, and we have to learn its history, as Mr. Ware has stated in his recent monograph, by studying its masonry. He considers that the tower is the oldest portion of the church, and that it is of Saxon workmanship, that is to say, the work apparently of Englishmen, and not of the French masons who came over with William the Conqueror. In order to appreciate its original appearance, he imagines it as standing alone, a fortified building, erected with a view to defence, and he points out that it was originally lighted by two windows in the north and south walls, at some height above the ground level, and that these windows have a double splay, characteristic of Saxon work. He suggests that, if ever there was a church attached to this tower, it was of wood or wattle, but nothing of it now remains.

Next in importance to the tower is the chancel, which is of pure Norman work, probably built, he considers, before the end of the eleventh century, and its original windows are still visible in the walls north and south of the Communion rails, but were walled up, in all probability, when the two side chapels were built. This

chancel originally extended some twelve feet further east than it does at present, and there was a very narrow lane between the end of the church and the town gaol.

During the Regency preceding the reign of George IV., this lane was often used by the Prince Regent on his way to the Pavilion at Brighton, and it was extremely difficult for his carriage to pass through it. He protested very much against the difficulty, and promised the town a considerable sum of money if the road could be widened. Instead of removing a portion of the town prison, which could quite easily have been diminished in size, the authorities preferred to shorten the church, and cut off about twelve feet from its length and replaced the chancel window.

The whole proportion of the building was in this way injured in the creation of the present Quarry Street, and, as the sum of money promised by the Prince Regent for the alteration was never paid to the town, the injury done to the building did not even have the justification it might otherwise have received, but could only be characterised as a piece of Philistinism of the worst possible order.

The two chapels of St. John and St. Mary were, according to Mr. Ware, erected early in the twelfth century. They were probably improved, he says, and perhaps almost rebuilt, a hundred years later, but the three windows of the north chapel are of later style, and appear to belong to the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries respectively. The south chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, may possibly be a few years later than the north one.

The two passages which connect the chapels with the chancel, and are cut through the Norman wall, are a striking feature of the church. They have been

considered as squints, but it seems to be more likely that they were ambulatories intended for processions, in order that a procession might be able to pass from the high altar through the chapels and aisles. The rood screen at that time filled up the centre aisle, and against it stood the central altar. This was probably the altar for the town, the chancel and the side chapels being served by the Dominicans or other religious orders in Guildford, and considered as conventual altars, while very possibly one of the chapels was reserved for the Court.

The nave of the church as it stands at present was evidently built in the time of Henry II. The aisles were rebuilt during the reign of Henry III., in order to enlarge the church. It seems likely that early in the thirteenth century, soon after the nave with its narrow aisles had been built, the whole of the eastern church was renovated, and that to the period called Early English or First Pointed belongs the beautiful groining of the chancel roof and the severely pointed arch leading from the tower to the chancel.

It is not necessary in a work of this description to go through all the important architectural features of this interesting church, especially as students can be referred to Mr. Ware's learned treatise.* It should, however, be mentioned, that there were six altars in the church originally, three in the monastic church—the chancel and two side chapels—the one referred to in the rood gallery, and one at the east end of each aisle. It is, however, quite possible that in the south aisle there were two altars, as there are the remains of two piscinas, but it is probable that one of them belongs to the original aisle, and the other to the time when the aisle was widened. Two altars were endowed as chantries, one bearing the name of Jesus and the other The Body of

* Three Surrey Churches. Crown 4to., 1900.



INTERIOR OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 1827.

From a water colour drawing by Hassell.

Christ, and in 1492 there is a bequest recorded of 3s. 4d. left to each chantry by Henry Freke, and twelve pence for the High Altar.

The Masses for the soul of the heir to the throne, mentioned in the chapter on the Dominican Friary, were to be said at the Mary Altar, and in this same place there were many Masses for the soul of Edward the Black Prince, in accordance with a special bequest made for that purpose by his own will. In the ninth year of Henry III., Henry . . . , the Vicar of St. Mary's Church gave 40s. to have a Fair held near the church for three days.

The two parishes of St. Mary and Holy Trinity were united in 1698-9, 10 and 11 William III., under the name of The Holy and Undivided Trinity and the Blessed Virgin St. Mary. The union was made by Act of Parliament, inasmuch as the two parishes were close together, the patronage in the same hands, and the income exceedingly small, and on this occasion Morley, Bishop of Winchester, gave twenty pounds per annum for three years, and Sir Richard Onslow two hundred pounds, to further the scheme. The parishes are united for ecclesiastical purposes only, but as to other matters, such as the repairs to the fabric, they remain distinct.

It has been suggested by the late Mr. J. H. Parker, the celebrated authority on architecture, that on the exterior of the west front of St. Mary's there was originally a porch, and that it possibly had a chamber over it. There is still to be seen a niche for the image of a saint near the south end of the west wall, and there is certainly some evidence for the theory which Mr. Parker enunciates. If that were so, it was in all probability used for sanctuary; and, as we know from the Rolls of the Court of Exchequer in the third year of Edward III. that two criminals took sanctuary at St. Mary's, it seems probable that this occurrence took place in the porch.

The right of sanctuary, originally laid down by the early Saxon kings, continued right on to the Middle Ages ; and, as a rule, persons whose liberty was in danger, and who desired this sanctuary, took refuge in the Galilee or porch of the nearest important church. One of the most important sanctuary porches still remaining is the one in connection with Durham Cathedral.

Another special feature of the interior of this church is to be found in the wall-paintings which adorn the chapel of St. John. There is no very distinct evidence as to which St. John this chapel is dedicated to, but it is probable that, as three of these wall-paintings refer distinctly to the Evangelist, its dedication is to St. John the Divine. In the will of John Jeffson, dated 1547, the testator desires to be buried in the chapel of St. John in the church of St. Mary. From this piece of information one historian of the county assigns the dedication to St. John the Baptist ; but, as a rule, in the wills of the Middle Ages, the reference to St. John, when the word stands alone, is to St. John the Divine rather than to St. John the Baptist.

Mr. J. G. Waller gave very careful attention to these paintings, and in 1891 wrote an important article upon them, from which any information as to their subjects is necessarily taken. The centre of the composition on the upper part of the vaulting has the figure of our Lord seated within an aureole, holding up the right hand in the act of benediction, and having in the other hand a book or orb. This is usually known as 'The Majesty.' There are two small figures of angels on each side of another face of the vault to represent the Heavenly Host.

The first subject, commencing from the right side of 'The Majesty,' clearly represents St. John in the vat of boiling oil before the Latin Gate at Rome. Part of the

medallion at the extreme end of the vault on the north side, or the right of 'The Majesty,' represents another scene in the legendary history of St. John—the miracle of the raising of Drusiana from the dead. The other part of the medallion refers to two more stories respecting the same Apostle, in which he is represented as collecting together the fragments of certain gems which had been destroyed and making them whole again, and also his miracle of converting certain rods into gold. Between these two medallions is yet another reference to the same legendary history, according to which the Apostle, having fortified himself by the sign of the Cross, drank up some poison, and also raised to life two men who had previously died from the effect of the same poison.

On the other half of the vaulting, opposite to the medallion exhibiting St. John in the vat of oil, is part of the story of St. John the Baptist, the Forerunner being brought before the seated figure of Herod, and the decapitation. On the reverse face to this is the most obscure of these medallions, and Mr. Waller states that it refers to the story of the Jew of Berytus who maltreated the representation of Christ. The story is related by St. Athanasius, and it ends with a narrative of the baptism of the Jew and his companions, who had proved to them, by a miracle, the Divinity of our Lord.

The last subject, which is larger than the others, represents the casting out of devils by the power of The Redeemer.

On the spandrils above the arch are two scenes—the 'Weighing of Souls' and 'The Punishment.'

It is suggested that these paintings were executed by William of Florence, an artist who is referred to in a document of 1259 cited by Horace Walpole in his 'Anecdotes of Painting.' This man is known to have been employed in Guildford with regard to certain

pictures and the frontal of the altar of the chapel, and it is quite possible that he was the author of these works.

It has, however, been pointed out that William of Florence was only an artist of quite ordinary merit, judging from the payments made to him; for, whereas another William, a monk of Westminster, who in the 13th century was styled the King's painter, was paid as much as 2s. per day, William of Florence received only 6d. per day. The group of scenes is unique so far as is known, and several of the legends referred to are of very rare occurrence. It would seem probable that the medallions were executed by an artist of some considerable standing, who must also have been a man of original ideas, or else was directed by someone of importance.

The paintings have received in the course of time considerable damage, and it is even less easy to make out their subjects now than it was when Mr. Waller wrote his paper upon them. They are, however, of the very greatest interest, and deserve careful attention.

CHAPTER VII

THE TWO ANCIENT CRYPTS IN THE HIGH STREET

THE information available concerning the two crypts in the High Street is not very considerable.

It is rather strange that the standard history of the county, Manning and Bray (1804), does not refer to these crypts at all. There is no reference to them in Aubrey's *'Antiquities of Surrey'* (1719), nor in Salmon's *'Antiquities of Surrey'* (1736), and the printed information concerning them has to be taken from Grose's *'Antiquities of Surrey'* (1773) and from Brayley and Britton's *'History of Surrey'* (1850), in which the description given by Grose is quoted. These can be supplemented by the information written by F. Laurence in 1842, published by G. W. and J. Russell in 1845, and illustrated from drawings by C. C. Pyne. It would appear, therefore, that the older historians of the town were not familiar with these interesting buildings.

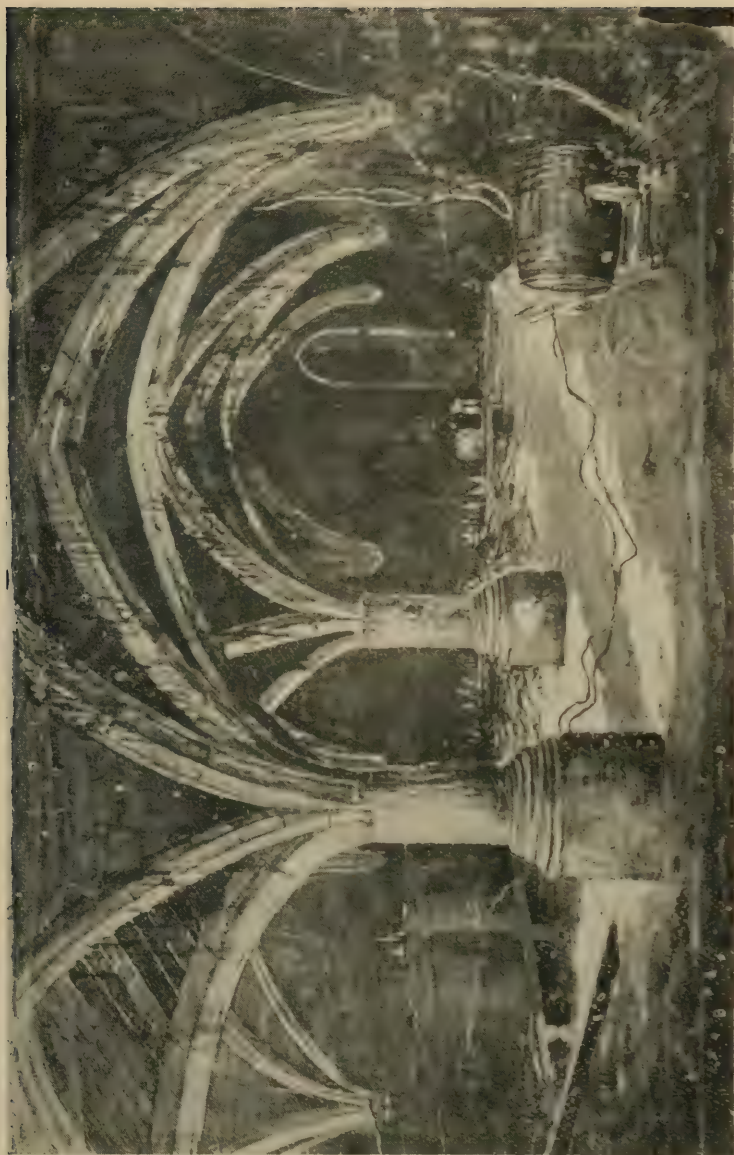
The first point to be noted with respect to them is that the two crypts—one under the Angel and the other under the Savings' Bank—are very similar, and must have been erected at about the same time. The one under the Savings' Bank is about 32 feet 6 inches by 19 feet 6 inches, that under the Angel 32 feet 3 inches by 19 feet. Both crypts have groined roofs, supported in the central line by two circular columns, each about 5 feet 6 inches high and 18 inches in diameter, from the heads of which, and from the sculptured corbels attached to the walls, spring a series of intersecting ribs, forming pointed arches, the extreme height of which in the south crypt is 9 feet

6 inches. There are no wall ribs in either crypt. The bases of the columns in the crypt under the Angel are larger than those in the south crypt, the columns have no capitals, and the intersecting ribs which spring from them are perhaps a little less pointed. The extreme height of this crypt is 10 feet 3 inches. The sculptured corbels in each crypt represent grotesque human heads. The north crypt is distinctly plainer and simpler in its character than the south one, but they have many characteristics in common.

In the north there are still signs of fresco work, and in the south-west bay can yet be seen the traces, painted in red and white upon the plaster, of what appears to be a representation of the Flight into Egypt. In the early part of the last century a much more important fresco existed in that crypt, which clearly depicted the Crucifixion and the two attendant figures of the Blessed Virgin and St. John. It was sketched by a member of the Russell family, as even in his time it was fast fading away; and his sketch shows us that both in drawing and in colouring it bore a marked resemblance to the fresco work in St. Mary's Church. So far as the author is aware, there has never been seen any fresco work in the more decorative crypt on the south side.

We do not agree with Mr. Thackeray Turner that they were 'without doubt' undercrofts of merchant town houses, as we believe there is strong evidence that they had to do with a monastic foundation, and that it was probably connected with the White Friars.

In the centre of the High Street, between these two crypts, stood the 'Fyshe Crosse,' and when the re-paving of the High Street was carried out a large circular mass of rubble was discovered in the centre of the street, which was pronounced to be early fourteenth century work, and was clearly intended as the foundation of a



THE NORTH CRYPT UNDER THE ANGEL INN.

Circa 1840.

From a water colour drawing by H. Prosser.

large and heavy building. On the top of it was some brickwork, very thin bricks, more like large tiles appearing, and the whole was firmly welded together. Close down by the side of it was found an ancient key, now in our possession, which experts have stated is monastic iron-work of the 13th or 14th century. It is a very fine example of wrought iron-work, over seven inches long, and may probably have been the key to one of the crypts or to an oratory in the 'Fyshe Crosse.' The 'Fyshe Crosse' was removed in the 35th year of Elizabeth. In the previous year it is spoken of in the town books as the 'Whyte Crosse,' the 'Whyte Fryers' Cross,' the 'Fryers' Crosse,' and 'the round house, called the Fryers' Fyshe Crosse in the parish of St. Mary's eastwards on the south side of the street.'

In the 35th year of Elizabeth the statement in the town book reads as follows: 'The Fyshe Crosse standing neare the Aungell in the parish of St. Mary in Guldeford shall be forthwith removed, and the place for sellinge all kinde of fresh fish shall be at all tymes for ever hereafter kepte and used in the place where the same now standeth, and a convenient place shall be appointed and built there for the same.'

There does not appear to have been a fish market ever built, and down to 1820 the stalls for the sale of fish were erected in the centre of the High Street opposite the Angel, although hardly anyone knew the reason for holding the market in that curious place, and, as contemporary letters show us, it was a source of great bewilderment to many visitors to Guildford. John Russell tells us in his note book, that the fish cross had on its summit a flying angel carved in stone, that it was erected by the white friars in 1345, and, being a great obstruction to traffic, was removed in 1595.

It is not easy to say definitely which friars are referred

to in these quotations. Speed tells us that there was a house of Crutched Friars in Guildford. The Dominican Friars, we know, had a very important house in Guildford, established in 1274 on the occasion of the death of Prince Henry, son of Edward I., and Queen Eleanor of Castile, and in the church attached to the Friary the heart of the Prince was deposited. This house of Black Friars lasted till 1538, and was surrendered on October 10th in that year in accordance with the decrees for the suppression of the monasteries.

Edward II., in the eleventh year of his reign, formed the design of adding to this Friary a Sisterhood of the same Order, for seven sisters, and of endowing it with a competent revenue for its maintenance. He went so far as to grant some ground in the town near to St. Mary's Church for the purpose, in 1317, and he wrote from Wallingford on April 2nd, and again twice on October 6th, in 1318, to Rome, to the Pope and to the Cardinals, as to this foundation, sending Richard de Birton and Andrew de Aslakeby, brethren of the Order, thither in person to support his request. The letters are quoted in full in Rymer's *Foedera*, and are very interesting documents, but there is not much evidence as to what was the result of this correspondence, although the King's petition was certainly granted.

Tanner suggests that the seven sisters of the Order of St. Dominic did not come to Guildford, but to Kingsclere, but the Rev. C. R. F. Palmer, who was the historian of the Dominican Order, stated that he was quite certain that seven sisters of one of the Orders of Friars did settle in Guildford during the time of Edward II., but whether Dominicans or Carmelites he was not able to prove. He was inclined to think that the sisters were Dominicanesses, but he believed that they remained in Guildford a very short time, and were

followed by Carmelite Friars. He stated that in the early part of the reign of Edward III., say about 1330, he had evidence in the Household Rolls of the existence in Guildford for a few years of a Carmelite house, dedicated to Our Lady, St. Michael, and all Holy Angels, which received the King's bounty.

The Carmelites were usually called the White Friars, from their white cloak. They came to England in the 13th century, the Whitefriars Church in London having been founded in 1241, and there are many references in the Guildford books to the Fish Cross in connection with their name; thus it is probable that they it was who erected this building, in the same way as they erected one at Aylesford.

Each Carmelite house, as a rule, was complete in itself, without mother house or central authority, and it is therefore the Order which is most difficult to trace with certainty. Father Palmer, however, said that the very small one in Guildford possessed a guest-house, and it is probable that we have a record of this house in the name of the Angel Inn. Probably the convent existed on the south side of the street, and the south crypt, or undercroft, is the only portion of the building now remaining, and almost the only object which recalls 'the coming of the Friars' to Guildford.

The Angel Inn is believed to occupy the site of the guest-house. The sign of the Angel on a really old-established inn is a very rare one in England. The first coffee-house in this country was established at the sign of the Angel in Oxford; there was an Angel tavern in Smithfield, where Joe Miller, the well-known actor and wit, used to play; an Angel at Basingstoke, often visited by Ben Jonson; and an important inn at Grantham known as the Angel, which was originally a Knight Templar foundation. Another Angel was in

the Strand, behind St. Clement's Church, and to that Bishop Hooper was taken in 1555, when on his way to the stake. The best known Angel Inn was, and still is, the one at Islington, and the fine timber-built erection was only pulled down as recently as 1819. These seven are almost the only inns bearing the sign of the Angel, which date back to anything like antiquity, although there are eighteen others in London and some twenty more in the provinces having this sign, besides very many in which the Angel is associated with some other sign. Most of these are, however, of comparatively recent foundation, whereas those just mentioned are very ancient houses. Each of the six important ones had some connection with a religious house which had preceded it, and it is, therefore, probable that the Guildford Angel was not an exception to the rule.

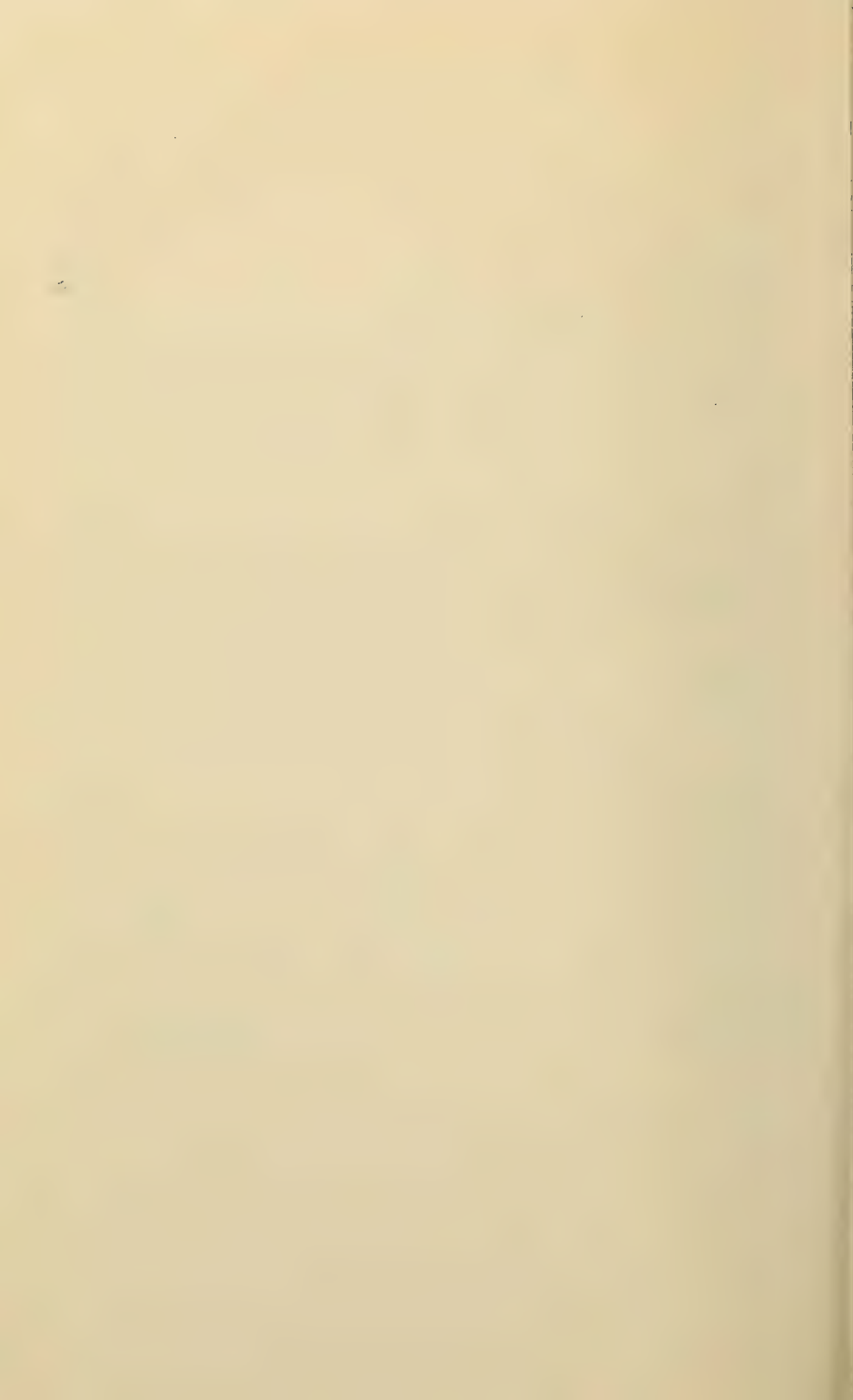
There were three religious guilds in Guildford in the fourteenth century, those of Corpus Christi, Jesus, and the Holy Angels. Two of them received important bequests in 1492, but there is no trace of their ordinances in the British Museum, nor have we any reference to the place where they met. It seems probable, however, that two of them were connected with the altars bearing similar dedications in St. Mary's Church, and the third attached to this religious house.

It does not follow that either of the undercrofts was used for religious purposes. Laurence, in the book already quoted, implies that it was so, but it is much more likely that they were places of storage under the house. The presence of frescoes, however, in the north crypt may have reference to the meeting of a guild in that building, or the frescoes may have been such religious ornamentation as was frequently applied to similar buildings, and would very naturally exist in rooms connected with a religious house.

Guilford

This block contains several architectural drawings of Guilford Cathedral. At the top left is a plan view of a vaulting grid, showing a series of squares with diagonal ribs and circular bosses at the intersections. To its right is a perspective drawing of the cathedral's nave, showing the high vaulted ceiling and the supporting piers. Below the plan view is a detail of a vault spring, showing the ribs meeting at a circular boss. At the bottom are three views of a capital: a side view showing its tiered, drum-like structure; a front view showing its face with two large, rounded lobes; and a back view showing its profile and the arrangement of the ribs it supports.

From a water colour drawing by H. Prosser.



In the south crypt the principal entrance is by a descending flight of steps from the street, but there has evidently been another one, now bricked up; and in some sketches done by Hassell in 1834 this entrance is to be seen. On the east side also, as Brayley pointed out, there is an indication of a passage about 6 feet in height and 2 feet 4 inches wide, and in one of the east bays there are two large orifices, one of which bears a sort of resemblance to an aumbry or piscina. There are signs of a small window looking into High Street, which also is now blocked.

When Brayley wrote his history there was a theory that the crypts were connected with the Castle, but this he dismissed, and suggested that they had far more the character of buildings relating to a religious foundation than of those connected with a fortress. This suggestion is probably the correct one. In the north crypt there is also the sign of another entrance, and from the passage leading to it there is recorded in a note-book, written in 1800, to have been communication with another vault now blocked up.

In the possession of Mrs. Butler there are some beautiful drawings of both crypts, one the work of Mr. Prosser circa 1830, from which an engraving was made, and others earlier, probably drawn by a Mr. Hassell. From a sheet of detailed drawings in the possession of the same lady it is clear that the corbels were, in the early nineteenth century, in far better condition than they are at present. Two of these illustrations are, by the kind permission of the owner, reproduced in this book. The vaulting, it will be noticed, has some slight characteristics in common with that of Waverley Abbey, and can certainly be attributed to late in the thirteenth or early in the fourteenth century. All the work is, of course, in chalk, and the arches are beautifully formed, the keystones especially being of excellent workmanship.

The two crypts are almost unique in Surrey.

There are not more than half-a-dozen examples of early fourteenth century architecture in the county, and of this number these two undercrofts are by far the most important. They are also to a great extent unspoiled, the south crypt especially having had no 'restoration' whatever.

There are two engravings of the south crypt—one executed by Hawkins in 1770 for a work on ancient architecture, published by Hogg, 16, Paternoster Row; the other the work of Godfrey, engraved for Grose's 'Antiquities' on the 1st of July, 1773. This plate was re-engraved by S. Hooper, 30th May, 1875, for a later edition of the same book. At that time both crypts were occupied by the proprietors of the Angel as stores, and the south crypt was full of faggots, some of which can be seen in Godfrey's engraving. Grose states that in 1770 it was so full that he was unable to take the exact measurements of it, and could only guess at them. A fresh engraving of the south crypt was made by Shury, after a drawing by J. R. Thompson, for Brayley's history in 1850, and that shows the crypt nearly empty, containing only a few planks, baskets, and bottles. Of the north crypt there are also two engravings. One, small in proportion, appears in the book written by Laurence in 1842, after a drawing by C. C. Pyne, and shows that the crypt was then in an untidy state, and contained a good deal of rough woodwork. The drawing for this illustration is still in existence. The other is from Prosser's drawing just mentioned; and when the drawings were made by Hassell and Prosser both the crypts appear to have contained barrels of wine or beer.

For the last fifty years the south crypt has been used as a wine store, having been leased successively to Messrs. Taunton and the Friary Brewery, and it is still used by the last-named firm for this purpose.



ANCIENT MONASTIC KEY.

Found on the site of the 'Friary Fyshe Crosse,' opposite to the two crypts, and believed to belong to one of them.

In the possession of the author.

It is unfortunate that there is so little definite information respecting the crypts, but it is possible that the few facts which have been here set forth may lead to the discovery of more records, and thus our knowledge may be increased with respect to these most interesting under-crofts.

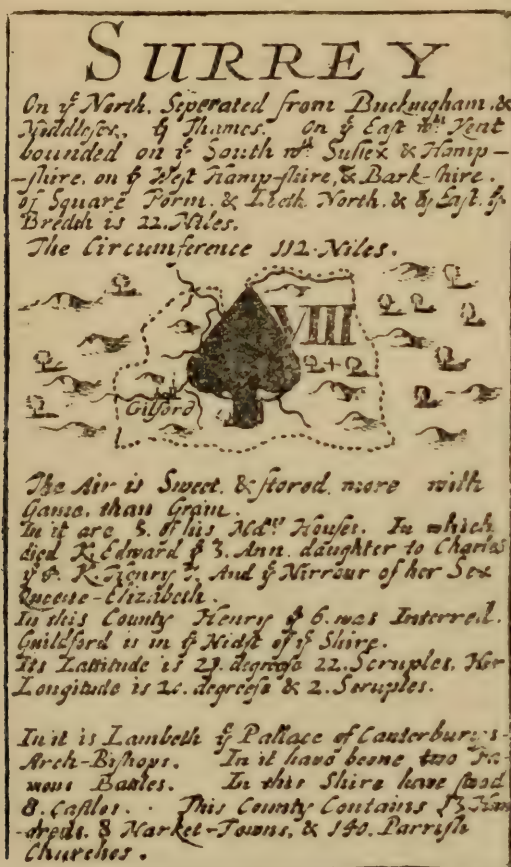
CHAPTER VIII

THE CASTLE AND THE CAVERNS

GUILDFORD Castle is believed to have been erected in the twelfth century, in the early part of the reign of Henry II. It has been stated that the keep, the important part which still remains, was built upon an artificial mound, but it has been pointed out recently by Mr. Malden that it would be impossible to build a solid Norman keep upon the top of an artificial mound, as the weight would be too great for the insecure foundation even if the mound were, as has been stated, 200 years old at the time. A great part of the eminence upon which the keep is erected is a natural formation, and it is possible that at an earlier time it was surmounted by some kind of Saxon fortification. On the demolition of this Saxon fortress the mound was probably increased in size artificially, but it should be noticed that the east wall of the keep is based upon the solid ground, 'and is built of an extraordinary thickness and solidity, to help in holding up the other three sides upon the mound.'

The first actual mention of the Castle in history is when King John paid 4s. for repairing it as a gaol in 1202, but we read of Henry II. keeping his Christmas here in 1186 and receiving the Legate of Pope Urban II. at Guildford when he came to bestow the crown of Ireland on Prince John. As already mentioned in the first chapter of this book, King John visited Guildford very often—no less than nineteen times in eleven different years. We know also that Henry III. was at Guildford in 1266, and his son, Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I., captured in single combat Sir Edmund Gordon, an

adherent of Simon de Montfort, who had been outlawed after the battle of Evesham, and was resting between Alton and Farnham. The Prince brought the rebel to Guildford and presented him to Queen Eleanor.



QUAINT OLD PLAYING CARD FOUND IN THE CASTLE

After the time of Henry III. there is some difficulty in deciding as to whether the royal residence at Guildford, frequently mentioned in the State papers, is Guildford Castle, or the palace in the park which certainly existed at a later time. Inasmuch as the

prisoners for both Surrey and Sussex were during the reign of Henry III. confined in Guildford Castle, it seems to be more probable that the additions made to the royal residence under the direction of Henry III. had reference to a building in the park, rather than to the Castle.

The park is referred to in 1301, when the 'issues and territories' of the castle, together with those of the town and park, were assigned with other property as a dowry to Marguerite of France, the second wife of King Edward I., and we are disposed to think that the monarchs of this period who resided in Guildford did so at a residence in Guildford Park rather than in the Castle. On the other hand, it is quite possible that the royal apartments with their elaborate decoration, mentioned in Chapter I., may have been situated in the middle ward of the Castle, and that the glass windows in the King's house and chapel at Guildford, broken by the storm of 1240, may have been in the same place. It should, however, be noticed, that in the domestic rolls the residence is spoken of as 'the King's house' or 'houses,' whereas the word 'Castle' is used when there are any statements as to the detention of prisoners.

In 1216, Guildford Castle was taken by Prince Louis of France, who had invaded England upon the invitation of the Barons in arms against King John, and the same fate overtook the Castles of Farnham and Reigate. In neither place does there seem to have been any serious attempt at defence.

In the tenth year of Henry III. we hear of the appointment of William de Conyers, as custodian of the Castle, and in the 39th year of the same reign the office was held by Elias de Maunsel, who at that time occupied a certain property upon the fosse of the castle, for which he paid an annual rent of twopence to the King.

In the 51st year of the same reign, the custody was given to William de Aguillon, who was then Sheriff of Surrey, and had charge of the prisoners for that county and for Sussex, and it would seem probable, therefore, that the Castle was used for a prison.

In the 35th year of the reign of Edward I., Henry de Sey, who was keeper of the King's prisoners here, petitioned that they might be transferred to more secure custody, as the Castle was not strong enough for the purpose to which it was appropriated, and he was informed that he might strengthen or enlarge the Castle if he liked, but in any case he must keep the prisoners securely, as the King did not see fit to provide any other place for their detention.

In the 40th year of Edward III.'s time, when the properties of the town were leased to the Corporation, there was a reservation of the Castle and the gaol within it for the King's use, and in the next year the custody of the fortress was given to the Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex, Andrew Sackville, for the purpose of a common gaol, and also for his own residence.

In the beginning of the reign of Richard II., the Constable of the Castle was Sir Simon Burley, who had been tutor to the King before he came to the throne. This man was afterwards transferred to Dover Castle, and made Chamberlain to the King; he was beheaded for treason in 1388.

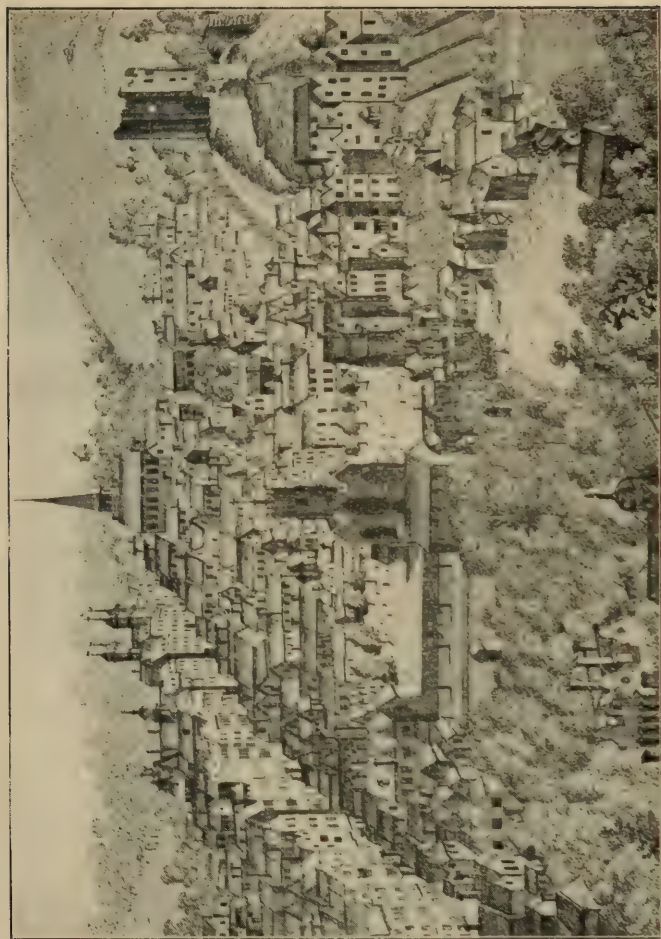
The Castle continued to be used for a gaol for both Surrey and Sussex until 1437, when the Sussex prisoners, at the petition of that county, were transferred to Lewes, but the Surrey prisoners appear to have been kept there down to 1612. It would therefore appear as though the building, or at least a considerable part of it, was used as a prison almost from the time of its erection, and that the site of the royal residence must be sought for

either in the outer ward of the building, or in Guildford Park.

In 1612, the site of the Castle with all its appurtenances, was granted by James I. to Francis Carter of Guildford, gentleman, who two years afterwards was made a freeman of the town. He probably resided in the place, as did his brother John, whose initials were at one time to be seen above the archway in Quarry Street known as Castle Arch, which he appears to have repaired. He is believed to have been the John Carter who was disfranchised from the freedom and society of the Corporation, 'being altogether averse and refractory to the good government of the town.' The tablet with the initials and date is now in the Archæological Society's Museum close at hand.

From the Carters the property went by an heiress to the Goodyear family of Alton, passing afterwards in a similar way first to the Thomas family, and then to the Matchwicks, by whom, in 1813, the whole estate was sold to Charles Duke of Norfolk. His successor sold it to Lord Grantley, and in 1886 the property was purchased by the Corporation of the town, and laid out as a town pleasure-ground.

Lord Ashcombe generously gave a thousand pounds towards the cost of the scheme, Mr. Crooke facilitated the purchase of the Bowling Green and the inn at its corner, and the late Mr. Councillor Colebrooke handed over to the Corporation the lease of a building near the Castle, in order that a commodious entrance to the grounds might be made at the north-east. At the time of the purchase some necessary repairs were very judiciously carried out upon the keep, and very considerable attention was given by the then Surveyor, Mr. H. Peak, to the preservation of the ruin, and to the arrangement of the pleasure grounds in the best possible way.



GENERAL VIEW OF GUILDFORD, circa 1690.

From an engraving in the Royal Magazine.

Premiums were offered to various landscape gardeners for suggestions, and it should be mentioned as a curious circumstance that the most generally attractive one out of the various schemes sent in started its schedule of work with a suggestion that the ugly ruin in the centre of the grounds should be removed, and in lieu of it should be erected a light iron band-stand painted green, picked out with gold. It may readily be believed that, although in other respects this scheme for the laying out of the grounds was a most admirable one, the iconoclastic suggestion it contained prevented its receiving any attention.

The building does not appear to have ever withstood any fighting. As already stated, it passed into the hands of Louis of France in 1216, and was surrendered again in the following year. It is not mentioned during the Wars of the Roses, and was not garrisoned during the wars of Charles I. Early in Richard II.'s time, we know that some of the building had fallen, and as much of the roof as remained was removed at the end of the reign of Henry VIII.

It has certainly been a royal residence, but it has never witnessed the meeting of any Parliament or great council, and its career has been a quiet and comparatively uneventful one.

The only important archæological feature of the interior consists of the rude carvings in one of the chambers. Various figures can be made out ; a great St. Christopher, a Syrian hermit with a hat, lamp, and staff, a Crucifix with two attendant figures, a figure reposing in a canoe-shaped coffin, a representation of St. Sebastian, a group which appears to represent Adam and Eve beneath a tree, the wheel of St. Catherine, some crosses, crowns, and concentric triangles. It is quite impossible to state when these carvings were done, but they are generally attributed to the thirteenth century, and are in all

probability the work of prisoners confined in the buildings.

A good deal of legend has naturally been associated with the building. Sir Thomas Mallory connects Astolat with Guildford, and considers that it was here that the fair maiden pined to death for Sir Launcelot. A less pleasant story connected with the Castle refers to the massacre by Godwin, Earl of Kent, but there is no historical evidence for either story.

There have been many suppositions respecting the chalk caverns near to the Castle, and the scene of the treachery of Earl Godwin and the torture of Prince Alfred's followers has been associated with them, and the old name of the approach to these caverns, Rack Close, has also been used as evidence for the fantastic tale. The Rack Close, however, has no reference whatever to torture chambers, but the piece of ground derives that name from the fact that in it were situated the large wooden racks on which the blue cloth made in Guildford was exposed by the clothiers to the sun for drying after it had been dyed.

These caverns were undoubtedly the quarries from which the chalk used for the building of a great many houses in the town was taken. A peculiar kind of very hard chalk without flint was obtained from them, which was well adapted for building purposes ; and a microscopic examination of the flint used in St. Mary's Church, in part of the Castle keep, and in many of the older houses of the town, reveals the identity between that chalk and the chalk still to be found in these quarries. It is probable that during Henry III.'s time, when a good deal of wine was kept in Guildford for the King, that it was stored in these caverns. It was brought from the King's vineyards in Gascony and Poitou, and there are to be found in the rolls many references to the King's

wines stored at Guildford, and orders were given that no other wine was to be sold in Surrey until the royal stock was disposed of.

The only occasion upon which the caverns have any definite mention in history occurs in 1688, when large numbers of the women and children of Guildford concealed themselves in these caves on the occasion of the landing of the Prince of Orange, afterwards William III., when it was expected that, owing to the flight of the rightful monarch, the kingdom would be plunged into civil war.

The caverns are eight in number, the longest being 100 feet long and the widest about 30 feet wide, the height from floor to roof varying from 5 feet to 7 feet. Both floor and roof follow the natural divisions between the successive strata, and are inclined down towards the north-west. In the fifth chamber there is an entrance to a deep well, which was sunk from the grounds of South Hill House when it was the residence of the Governor of Guildford Gaol; and it is said that in 1830 some convicts who were employed in sinking this well discovered the entrance to the caverns part of the way down and made their escape, and the entrance to the caverns was then ordered to be built up.

The caverns were carefully surveyed in 1868 by Corporal Robert Macdonald, and in 1871 a plan of them was prepared, and an article respecting them was read before the Royal Archæological Institute by Captain James, who was then in charge of the Ordnance Survey.

CHAPTER IX

ABBOT'S HOSPITAL, AND THE WOOL TRADE

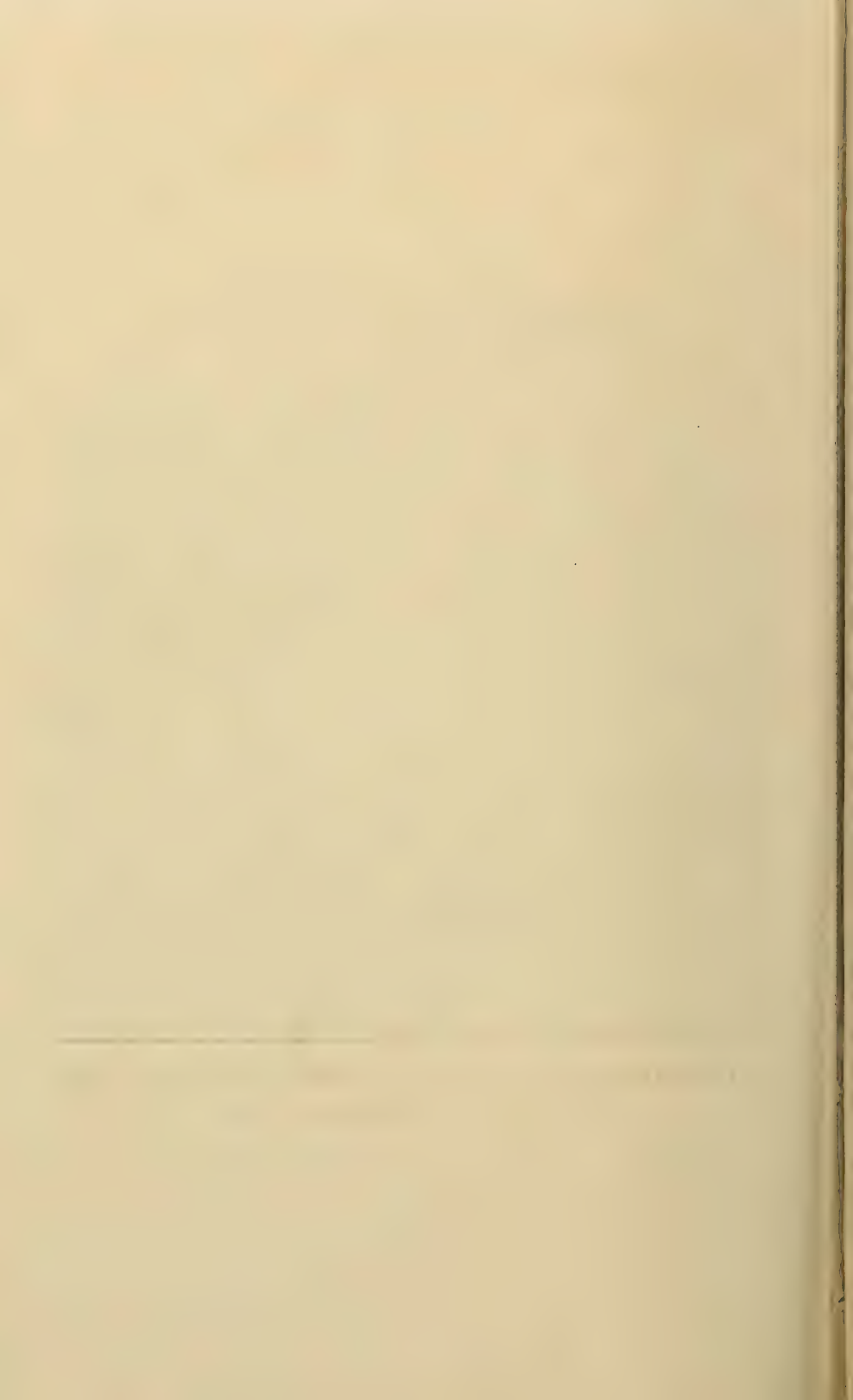
THE most important building in Guildford High Street is undoubtedly the Hospital of the Blessed Trinity, usually called, from the name of its founder, Abbot's Hospital. Some reference has already been made in these pages to the Abbot family, and the story of the life of the great Archbishop has been well told in the memoir published by Russell in 1777, and more recently in the work by Mr. Judges entitled 'In and Around Guildford,' 1895. It is, therefore, unnecessary to recapitulate in this volume the history of this great benefactor to the town, but some attention must be given to the building he erected.

In 1614 the idea of emulating his predecessor, Archbishop Whitgift, by the erection of a hospital at Guildford on somewhat the same lines as the one built at Croydon appears to have occurred to the Archbishop, and is foreshadowed in a letter to the Mayor of Guildford. On the 5th of April, 1619, he attended to lay the first stone of the building, which was completed in 1622, and a charter obtained for its government from the King. The first Master was Richard Abbot, the Primate's eldest brother, and an endowment calculated to produce £300 a year was set aside by the Archbishop for the advantage of his Hospital. He drew up very careful and elaborate statutes for its government, providing that the inhabitants should be unmarried persons of not less than sixty years of age, born in Guildford or resident there for twenty years. The endowments have increased in value, and



THE COTTAGE WHERE ARCHBISHOP ABBOT WAS BORN.

From a water colour drawing, circa 1834.



the inmates now number twenty-two, and receive a weekly allowance as well as certain extra gifts.

The appearance of the building recalls that of an old college. There is a handsome front elevation and great entrance gateway leading into an enclosed quadrangle, round which are the buildings. On the right of the entrance are the Master's rooms, where Abbot himself resided for a while in 1621 after the accident in Bramshill Park, by which he had unfortunately killed a park-keeper who had ridden between himself and the deer. A commission of ten persons was obliged under Canon Law to consider the question as to whether he could discharge his functions as Primate, and during the time of the sitting of this commission the Archbishop was in residence at Guildford, employing his time in literary work and in arranging about his Hospital.

Certain special features of importance in the Hospital must be referred to. The Archbishop's coat-of-arms, most beautifully painted, appears in a great many of the windows, and with it is usually associated the punning motto, 'Clamamus Abba Pater,' which may be translated either in the words from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans, chapter viii, verse 15, 'We cry "Abba, Father,"' or 'We call Abbot our father.'

The oak panelling in the dining-hall and the sitting-room for the use of the brethren and sisters is exceedingly fine, but it is surpassed in beauty by the panelling of the Master's rooms, and the staircase leading to the Board-room is, with its magnificent carved newel-posts, one of the finest examples in existence of Jacobean oak work.

In the chapel facing the entrance in the extreme left corner of the quadrangle are two very beautiful windows of painted glass, respecting the history of which there has been some controversy. There seems to be little doubt,

however, that the lights which contain the stories of Isaac, Jacob, and Esau were purchased by the Archbishop from the Friary, and originally adorned the chapel of that building, as has been mentioned in Chapter IV. Considerable additions must, however, have been made to these windows in 1621, and the exquisite tabernacle work, with the various heraldic achievements, was probably painted for the Hospital, and is always said to have been done by the same artist who carried out the windows at Lincoln College Chapel given by the Archbishop's friend, the Lord Keeper Williams.

It seems, however, to be possible that the stonework of the east window was removed entirely from the Friary Chapel. It certainly did not form part of the original scheme for the erection of the building, as the string course has been cut into for its insertion, and the window is out of proportion to the little chapel and far too large for it to have been planned for the wall in which it is placed.

It is possible that, if the papers belonging to the Governors were carefully examined, some information as to the erection of the chapel might come to light, but it is clear that the glass in that window is of three separate dates, part of it—especially the tabernacle work—belonging to about 1621, the lights, probably Flemish, of somewhat earlier date, and some of the coats-of-arms and the four angels belonging to an earlier period than the storied lights below them.

It may be interesting to record the fact that in the room immediately over the great entrance, the window of which, with its casing of iron bars, can be seen from the quadrangle, was confined the Duke of Monmouth after the battle of Sedgemoor, when he was lodged in Guildford for one night on his way to London.

There are a few important pictures in the Hospital,

the Board-room containing a portrait of the founder, painted in 1623, attributed by Mr. Whitburn to a scholar of Paul Van Somer; one of Sir Nicholas Kempe, a friend of the Archbishop and a benefactor to the Hospital, painted by Paul Van Somer on a panel; and one of another benefactor, Alderman Jackman, the work of John Russell, R.A., dated 1786, and the gift of the artist to the Hospital.

In the same room there are four portraits of Reformers, Sebastian Munster, John Wickliff, John Fox, and John Calvin. These were given in 1809 by the Earl of Onslow, and the one of John Fox is attributed to a clever Flemish painter, Marc Garrard; the portrait of Calvin is in black and white, and was evidently intended as the first scheme for an engraving.

In the dining-hall there is a picture containing the portraits of Admiral Pollen with his wife and infant daughter. The lower part of it is attributed by Mr. Whitburn to Hogarth, and the painting of the hands is exceedingly fine. The upper part has been added by an incompetent restorer. There are also three landscapes of eighteenth century work, one representing a house with a formal garden, another the street of a village, and the third a fox-hunt. They are considered to be the work of a Dutch artist resident in England.

In the room over the dining-hall are a portrait of Queen Anne, considered by Mr. Whitburn to be the work of Michael Dahl, and two portraits, a lady and a gentleman, which may be given to Hudson. There is also the sketch of a portrait of a lady in a white dress, with two children in white, generally believed to be the work of John Russell, R.A. The altar-piece in the chapel, representing the Entombment, given by Lord Onslow prior to June 4th, 1787, is an Italian work of the latter part of the sixteenth century, ascribed to the

school of Bologna, and in the same building is an excellent copy of 'The Flagellation,' by Rembrandt, made by Mr. Whitburn, and presented by him to the Hospital.

Attention should be directed to the exquisite quality of the brick-work in the building, to the remarkable lead-work shown in the heads of the lead water-pipes, some of which bear the arms and initials of the Archbishop, and to the very fine oak table and oak forms in the dining-hall. In the same room is a fine carved oak settle, worth notice, and upstairs in the Board-room are a very remarkable series of old Chippendale chairs, a fine Jacobean dining-table, several important carved oak chairs, and the leather chair mentioned in Chapter IV., in which Daniel Colwall committed suicide. The carving of the mantel-piece in this room is also of unusual excellence, and the doorways throughout the Hospital deserve careful attention.

In the garden is a fine double stone staircase, and a beautiful old well-house with a charming roof.

Abbot took considerable interest in the cloth trade of Guildford, an industry already alluded to in Chapter III. He wrote to the Mayor of the town in 1614 to urge that steps should be taken to revive the manufacture of woollen cloth, then seriously declining.

He suggested that the making of broadcloths, either blue or mingled, should be revived, and with this letter he sent £100, to be distributed through the town in giving four or five pounds to every man who would set up a loom in the place. Some years later, he appropriated the annual rent of £60, arising out of land at Burstow, and £40 arising out of land at Charlwood, to the employment of young persons in some manufacture to be set up and carried on within the town, but his efforts to revive a decaying industry were in vain, and, although an attempt

was made to carry out his wishes, in establishing a manufactory for the making of linen, and another for woollen cloth in 1656, yet neither was a success, and the income of the land was partly devoted to the inmates of the Hospital, and partly devoted to gifts to poor tradesmen of the town.

Later on these funds became the nucleus for the creation of Archbishop Abbot's School for boys.

So earnest was the Archbishop in his desire for the improvement of the trade of Guildford, that he required the brethren of the Hospital to wear gowns of Guildford blue cloth when they attended Divine service. There is an entry in the records of the Hospital, under date 1630, of a payment of £22 10s. to John West, a clothier of Guildford, for 100 yards of Mallard cloth, made in the town, at 4s. 6d. a yard. A similar entry occurs in 1633 of the same amount of money, and it is recorded that the measurement was '101 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,' the 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards being allowed in to make good measure.

The gowns are still worn, and are adorned with the beautiful silver mitres in use in Abbot's time, but it has long since been impossible to obtain Guildford cloth, and, in accordance with the statutes, new cloth is provided every few years, which is obtained of as near the same quality and colour as the Guildford cloth as possible.

It is a very curious fact that, although the cloth industry had entirely vanished long before 1795, when the later tokens of Guildford were issued, the tradition respecting it should be still continued to such an extent that the words 'Success to the Woollen Manufacture' and the representation of Bishop Blaise with a woolcomb should appear on the tokens. The town books show quite clearly that, seventy years before this, no cloth had been made in Guildford, and it is therefore supposed, either that the striker of the tokens was

unacquainted with the decay of the industry, or else that he made use of certain dies struck for places in Yorkshire, where the industry was still in existence, and placed them on the Guildford tokens for sentimental rather than for practical reasons.

Many of the important benefactors of Guildford were clothiers or cloth manufacturers, and it is recorded that in the additions made to the Grammar School in 1582 by Robert Brodbridge, a cloth-worker, this benefactor 'didd at his own charge well and substantially glasse all the windowes belonging to the said usher's lodgings, and in every windowe hath caused his cloathing mark to be sett in a quarrell of glasse, all which cost him about tenne poundes.'

Mention has already been made of the close in which the cloth was exposed to dry, and which still retains its name of Rack Close, and there is a building in a passage in the High Street which has always gone by the name of the Manufactory, and where the cloth was made, while the mill at the foot of the town was of old times called the Fulling Mill, and the name still survives.

One of the main reasons for the existence of this interesting trade consisted in the fact that not only was the water of the river especially good for the fulling, but that on the neighbouring hills could be found three plants in constant use. The fullers' teasle still grows near Guildford, the buckthorn used for dyeing purposes is yet to be found on the Farnham Road, and the woad plant, 'Isatis Tinctoria,' from which the earliest blue dye was extracted, still grows in considerable quantities in one of the quarries close to the town.

A few extracts from the records of the Hospital in the first few years of its existence may be perhaps of some interest.

The brethren and sisters were paid a crown per week

in 1630, and at that time the land at Merrow was let at £50 per year, but the following year only £40 was received for rental.

John Killinghall, of Guildford, in 1631, supplied a great brass pot, weighing in all 42 pounds, at 9d. a pound, with a handle to it which cost 6d., the entire bill amounting to £1 12s. The same man also supplied eight pewter dishes, weighing 24 pounds, at 11d. per pound, £1 2s.

Other entries are as follows :

	£	s.	d.
1631. Paid for a quire of paper to make a great book - - - - -	0	0	4
1632. Paid for a tub to fetch beer for the feast - - - - -	0	1	6
Paid for a new bucket for the well	0	2	4
Paid to Mr. Butler for painted glass which Goody Chessam's boy did wilfully break - - - - -	0	2	6
Paid to Goodman West for nine van-loads of charcoal - - - - -	9	9	0
Paid for one load of wood - - - - -	0	11	0
1633. Paid to John Bailey of Guildford, the tailor, for the making of twenty gowns - - - - -	1	10	0
Paid for rope for the bell, weighing 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds - - - - -	0	1	10
Paid for a bushel basket for the coals - - - - -	0	0	5
Paid to Martin Hall for four ridge-tiles and for laying them on our roof-top - - - - -	0	0	8
Paid for bringing home Sir Nicholas Kempe's picture, given by Sir Maurice Abbot - - - - -	0	0	4

	Paid for a Christmas Day's dinner	£	s.	d.
	for us all - - - - -	0	10	0
1634.	Paid to Mr. Dobson for binding and stringing the book of statutes which was delivered to my Lord-	0	3	0
	Paid to Goodman Reed for 500 bricks, 6s. 8d.; 500 tiles, 6s. 8d.; and a load of sand, 1s. 4d. - -	0	14	8
1635.	Paid for boring holes in our pear- tree - - - - -	0	0	2
	Paid to Mr. Baldwin for law-suits against Mr. Halwood - - -	1	6	6

In this year there appears a curious entry of the receipt of the rent for the farm at Merrow, £40, as follows :

‘There wanted sixpence of this £40, as Sparkes knows well, but he has not paid it.’

1636.	Paid to Mr. Miles, that set up my Lord's tomb, for putting up a crown over the King's arms over the gate, which the wind decayed	0	5	0
	Paid for a horse to Goodman West, to ride with Mr. E. Abbot - -	0	2	6
	Paid to the Master for his expenses in going to London three times about the Hospital business for advice to a lawyer - - - -	0	17	6
	Paid to Widow Lee and Widow Chapman for relieving of the sick for a whole year - - - -	0	13	4
1638.	Paid to Thomas Hogsflesh and William Smallpeice, tailors of Guildford, for making 20 gowns, at 1s. 6d. the gown - - - -	1	10	0

During these few years it would appear that the Vice-Master of the Hospital had 13s. 4d. a year for his extra services, and the parson of Trinity Church was paid 30s. a year for attending to the inmates, and the clerk who accompanied him 1s. per year.

The first Master of the Hospital, Richard Abbot, continued in office for six years and a half. He was succeeded by Jasper Yardley, who was appointed by the Archbishop, and who was in office for nine years, and the following are the Masters who succeeded him :

- 1639. Henry Snelling.
- 1644. Thomas Smith.
- 1654. Henry Horner.
- 1691. Rev. John Holland, parson of Holy Trinity, as the clergyman of this parish, has the right to be Master of the Hospital, if he is a bachelor or widower, and desires the office.
- 1691. Samuel Shaw.
- 1702. Samuel Barton.
- 1709. Robert Berry.
- 1719. Thomas Sands.
- 1729. Ephraim Woods.
- 1734. Henry Stoughton.
- 1744. Hugh Moth.
- 1749. William Goodyear.
- 1762. Rev. Cornelius Jeale.
- 1762. Michael Wallace.
- 1769. George L. White.
- 1792. Richard Elkins.
- 1809. Samuel Russell.
- 1824. Samuel Robinson.
- 1833. Jesse Boxall.
- 1846. Andrew Hooke.

1853. George Russell.

1861. Thomas Terry.

1885. G. Challen.

Present time. Thomas Harris.

There are two portraits of the Archbishop at Lambeth Palace, but one of the most interesting portraits belongs to the author of this book. It has been attributed to Cornelis Janssens, who was in England when Abbot was Archbishop. It originally hung in Croydon Palace in the Archbishop's dining-room, but, when the Palace was dismantled, was bought by the Rev. P. Brandon, Rector of Deal, who possessed it for some years, and then left it by will to his son. This son sold it to the Kingsley family, and while in the possession of one of that family it was seen by John Russell, R.A., who purchased it and sent it down to Guildford for his father.

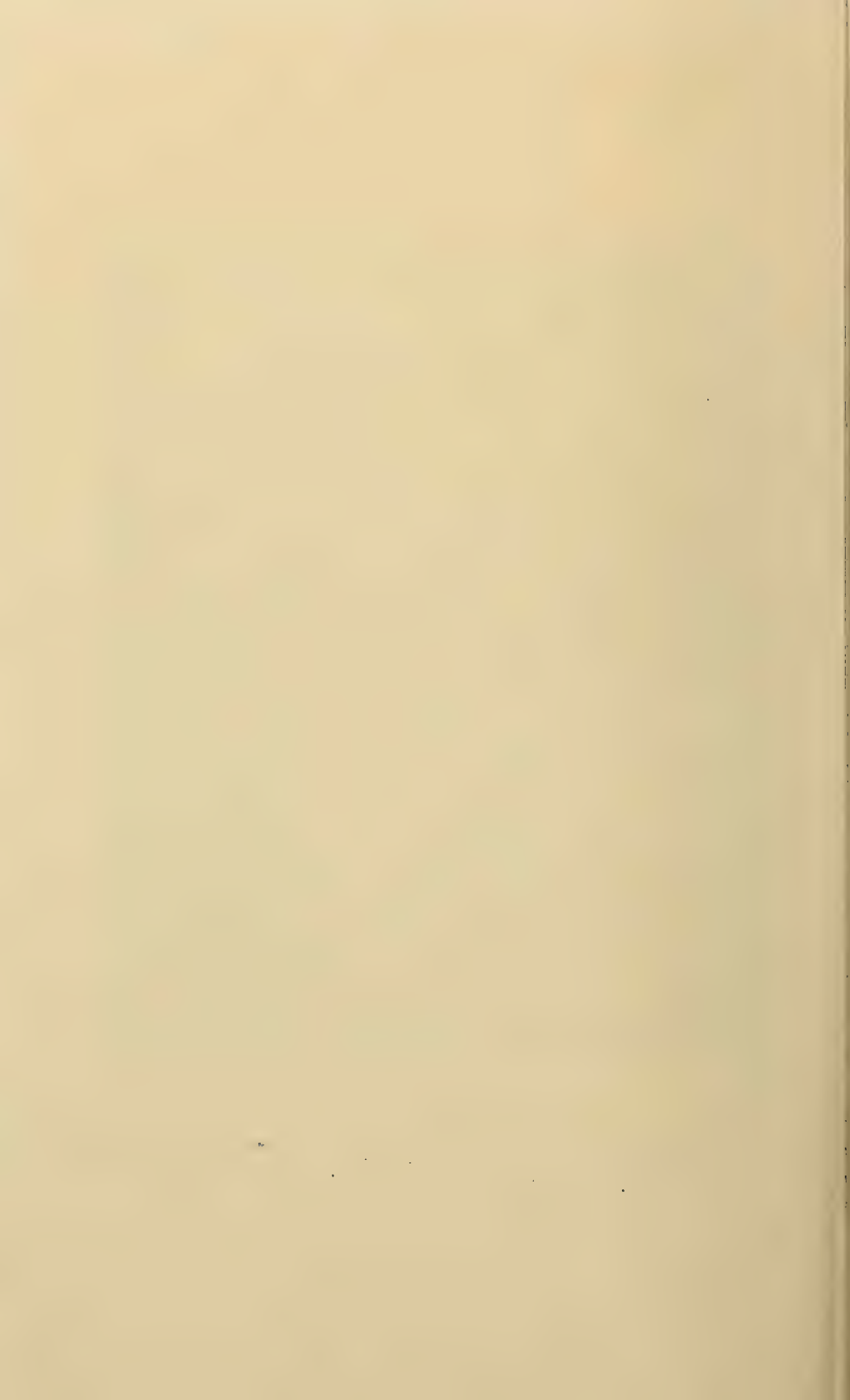
It belonged to three generations of the Russell family, and at a sale in the High Street, when their printing business was given up, it was purchased by Dr. Caleb Woodyer, at that time resident in Allen House, who bequeathed it to his son, the well-known ecclesiastical architect, Henry Woodyer, and at his sale it was acquired by its present owner, still bearing the label at its back recording its original purchase by the Rev. P. Brandon.

It closely resembles a well-known portrait of Abbot, engraved by Houbraken, which, he says, was taken 'from a picture in the possession of Mr. Kingsley.' The costume is identical save as regards the hat, but the engraver has taken the usual liberties with the countenance, and has lost some of the sternness of feature to be seen in the portraits at Lambeth and by Van Somer in the Hospital.



GEORGE ABBOT,
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

*From the original painting, circa 1618, by Cornelis Janssens, in the
possession of the author.*



CHAPTER X

GUILDFORD BOOKS

IT may perhaps be of interest to devote a few pages to the account of some of the books which have a more or less close connection with Guildford. Several works were written by Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, of which perhaps the most noteworthy was his 'Briefe Description of the Whole World,' a 12mo. book, of which there were many editions, 1599, 1600, 1603, 1608, 1613, 1617, called the ninth, 1620, 1624, 1634, 1635, 1636, 1642, 1656, and 1664.

Another was 'An Exposition upon the Prophet Jonah, contained in Certain Sermons preached at St. Mary's Church, Oxford,' a small 4to. of 638 pages, issued in 1600.

Others that may be mentioned are : 'A Sermon Preached at Westminster at the Funeral of the Earl of Dorset,' 4to., 1608 and 1611 ; 'The Archbishop's Decision as to the Marriage of the Earl of Essex,' 12mo., 1613 ; 'Questiones Lex,' etc., Oxford, 1598 ; the 'Answer to the Questions of the Citizens of London as to Cheapside Cross,' 1641 ; the 'Reasons of Dr. Hill for the upholding of Papistry Unmasked,' 4to., 1604 ; and 'Judgment as to the Bowing at the Name of Jesus,' 8vo., 1632, and others, but perhaps the most interesting to Guildford people is the small 4to., 1624, entitled 'A Treatise of Perpetual Visibilitie and Succession of the True Church in all Ages,' as this volume was written at Guildford when the Archbishop, according to his own words, was 'full of pain in spirit.'

The majority of the books relating to the history of the town bear the imprint of members of the Russell family, and, as some confusion has arisen with regard to the different members of this family, it may be well to give here a brief sketch of their history, which may aid in clearing up any confusion of identity.

Since 1509 the Russell family have been connected with the town ; but it will suffice for our purpose if we commence our remarks at John Russell, four times Mayor of Guildford, who was born January 21st, 1711, and died June 1st, 1804. He married Ann Parvish, and had a family of seven children.

He was a bookseller in Guildford, occupying premises at No. 32 High Street, now the residence of Messrs. W. Stent and Sons, his successors. He took much interest in his native town, and his imprint—‘J. Russell, bookseller, 1777’—appears on the first edition of ‘The History and Description of Guildford’ and upon ‘The Adventures of the Guildford Jackdaw.’

It is not very clear as to which member of the family actually wrote the ‘History of Guildford,’ but it was probably not the work of one hand alone. Very possibly John Russell himself superintended the work, but the actual literary work was in all probability done by his third son, Thomas (born 1748 ; died 1822), who was afterwards Rector of Clandon, and who appears to have been the most literary and archæological member of this remarkable family. John Russell later on took his second son Samuel (born 1746 ; died 1824) into partnership. The ‘History of Guildford’ was at that time only a shilling pamphlet of 24 pages, and the second edition, enlarged, which contained 44 pages, was issued in 1800, and bears the imprint of ‘J. and S. Russell.’ Both of these editions are very scarce.

The complete edition of the ‘History of Guildford’

appeared the next year, 1801, bearing the same imprint. It had by that time become a substantial book of 328 pages, crowded with interesting matter most accurately and carefully extracted from the original books and MSS. belonging to the town. Unfortunately its general arrangement leaves much to be desired, and its want of an index is a very considerable drawback to its usefulness.

As the standard work on the subject it is, however, still of the greatest importance, and it is the most valuable contribution ever yet made towards a full history of the town. Thomas Russell had an evident intention of illustrating it very fully, as many exquisite drawings are still extant which he made for the purpose. Some copies, indeed, were issued with some views cut from his father's 'North-west Prospect,' and mounted on plain pages, and some with a folding view of the town, cleverly drawn by the father, John Russell. An 8vo. view of the town from the same gifted hand adorns other copies, and many possess the two portraits of Archbishop Abbot and Sir Nicholas Kempe which were prepared for the 'Life of Abbot,' to which we refer further on. The folding plate of Trinity Hospital, from the same book, is to be found occasionally in the 'History'; but the only plate which actually belongs to the book and was prepared for it, and does not appear in other works, is the plate of Guildford traders' tokens issued in the seventeenth century.

The pagination of the book is most peculiar. The general pagination is i.-xii. and 1-328; but, in addition to this, pages 95-102 inclusive appear five times, and are distinguished in this quadruple arrangement by the addition to the figures of one, two, three and four stars. Pages 143 and 144, 175-182 inclusive, and 187-206 inclusive are also doubled, the extra pages being starred

by one asterisk. There are several minor differences between the copies issued, but all are of the same edition, and the discrepancies due to the eccentricities of publisher and printer. A few rough woodcuts adorn the book. Thomas Russell's own copy, which is still extant, is diligently corrected and annotated in view of a new edition, and many of the extra notes added by the author are of special value. He died, however, before the demand arose for a second edition of his book.

The Rev. Thomas Russell certainly wrote the 'Guildford Jackdaw,' and his brother John drew the illustrations in Indian ink very beautifully, and the same size as the present very rough woodcuts. Thomas also kept a commonplace book which is in the writer's possession, and recorded in it very many important notes on the history of the town and county. By some printed forms which are fastened into it we can see that he was preparing for a history of the county on a large scale, which he was probably only prevented from carrying out by his death in 1822. The other children of the Mayor were three daughters, Ann, Elizabeth and Katharine, and another son William, who married Ann Baker, and from whom are descended the present representatives in Guildford of the family, and those who still in other parts of the county bear the family name.

William Russell has left at least one water-colour drawing, that of Hedingham Castle, in the possession of the Misses Russell, but his share of the family genius showed itself in an excellent taste and capability in sculpture.

The father's imprint also appears upon the 'Life of Abbot,' published in 1777, the same year as the first edition of the 'History,' and this, although only a compilation, is yet a very skilful one, and may probably be traced to the hand of Thomas Russell, who would at that time be about twenty-nine years of age. One of

the drawings in the book (that of the Hospital), was also his work, but the other two, the portraits of the Archbishop and Sir Nicholas Kempe were the work of his more gifted elder brother, John. The well-known view of the Grammar School was also the work of the Rev. Thomas Russell, and another very charming picture, entitled 'A View of Guildford,' came from the same hand.

To the father himself we are indebted for 'The North-west Prospect of Guildford' with its surrounding smaller views of buildings, published by 'John Russell, jun.,' as he then called himself, in 1759, and for the other view of Guildford from the North-west, published in 1782. Whose work this first prospect actually was we hardly know, unless, as we believe, the bookseller, John Russell, not only published, but drew it, as he states in the margin. It could not have been John Russell the Royal Academician's work, as he at that time was but fourteen years old, although it has been attributed to him.

In 1739 a book entitled 'An Inquiry into the Jewish and Christian Revelation' was printed for its author, Samuel Parvish, and sold by him in Guildford, and this writer is believed to have been the father of the Ann Parvish who married the Mayor, and was mother to the Royal Academician. One other book, published in 1772 by the worthy paterfamilias, must be mentioned, and that is the 'Poetical Blossoms, Poems, Odes and Translations,' by Richard Valpy. The book was written when the author was but sixteen, but he lived to become a very eminent Greek scholar and author, and was great-grandfather to the present Chairman of the Grammar School. John Russell also possessed a taste for carving, and a tobacco-stopper is still preserved by the Misses Russell, the ivory head of which represents a greyhound seizing a hare, and is very cleverly carved.

The eldest son was the most gifted member, and is by far the best known for his beautiful portraits in pastel* ; but there are younger branches of the family who merit recognition. William, the youngest son, already mentioned, had seventeen children. George, the eldest, was specially artistic, and prepared some water-colour sketches of the old Friary for the 1845 edition of the 'History.' Samuel married Marianne Sharpe, of Gatwick Hall, and died in 1875, leaving two daughters.

George, in conjunction with his bachelor brothers William and John, carried on the bookselling and publishing business, and for many years printed Russell's Almanack, and did most of the local printing.

To their press we are indebted for many local pamphlets of great interest, now very rare, especially the history of the Chennell murder and story of Mary Toft, and for the race-cards and play-bills and almanacks of the town. All three partners were eminently disqualified for success in trade, all being disappointed men, forced by the mistaken care of their father to turn their backs on the careers they longed for and follow uncongenial pursuits. George had desired to be an artist, William a soldier, and was compelled to decline an offered commission in the Royal Artillery, while John was studying for holy orders, with a view to succeeding his uncle Thomas at Clandon. They all had strong artistic tastes, and have left piles of sketches to prove it.

It is to them that we are indebted for the last edition of the 'History of Guildford,' which is really an entirely different book to the others. It is entitled 'A Descriptive and Historical View of Guildford,' and was published in 1845, bearing the imprint of 'G., W. and J. Russell.' Mr. C. C. Pyne, afterwards drawing-master at the Grammar School, made most of the drawings, which

* See 'John Russell, R.A., his life and work,' by Geo. C. Williamson, 1894.

were engraved by Thomson. Some were, however, as we have before said, made by the senior partner of the firm himself. The book is an 8vo. of 212 pages, and full of interest, and was written for Messrs. Russell by a Mr. F. Laurence in 1842. This fact, not hitherto known, is rendered certain by the autograph inscription in the copy of the book given in 1852 by the author to his friend Mr. Parry, in which he has recorded the fact of his authorship and the date when he wrote the book. This volume is now in the writer's possession.

Mr. Samuel Russell was the last of the family to pass away, and in Guildford are still his two daughters, the Misses Russell, the last remaining residents of this important family, highly respected and esteemed. The youngest son of William Russell, Edward James Rideall (born 1795; died 1871) did not enter his brothers' business. His children are still living. Of the three sons, one is Rector of Todmorden, another was Minor Canon of St. Paul's, and a third (also in holy orders) resides at Lewes, and there are besides two sisters.

A very scarce book, published in 1701 in Swan Lane, Guildford (at that time the Paternoster Row of the place, and the residence of the principal booksellers), printed for Isaac Walker, was the work of a local medical man, David Irish by name. He was a quack practitioner in physic and surgery at Stoke, and kept a private lunatic asylum. His residence was the old house in Woodbridge Road now occupied by Mr. Carter the veterinary surgeon. The work is in two parts, the first commencing with a preface of twenty-four pages, wherein the author 'vindicates himself, confutes the slanderers of his name, and gives some general friendly advertisement to his loving neighbours and countrymen and to the

courteous readers.' He then proceeds to give some information as to his own life, and to abuse all other doctors, most writers, and almost every learned man with whom he was acquainted.

He says he was descended from an ancient family in Scotland, whose grandfather came with James I., and was splendidly interred at Weekham Church in Hampshire. His father, he states, had considerable fortune, but was defrauded of it, and was a skilful mathematician who followed the trade of a mill-wright, and was buried in Beckhampton Church. His grandfather, on his mother's side, he says, was coachman to Queen Elizabeth, and named Bishop, and he concludes his preface with the following words :

In fine, I was born and baptized at Weekham aforesaid, but God knows where I shall lay my bones ; I have two brothers, the one is heir both to the estate and virtue of his ancestors, the other degenerates as much, and therefore is bad, the eldest lives on his own freehold in Havant, the other I know not where, his wickedness is far greater grief to my soul than the malice of my enemies can make it prejudicial to my reputation.

He then proceeds to advertise his method of curing lunatics, extracting teeth, performing operations, and treating his various patients, he gives his charges and his hours, and mentions the names of some of his remedies, finishing up by wholesale abuse of every other doctor in Guildford, whom he speaks of by nicknames given to them by him.

The book also contains a lengthy treatise on the cure of madness, a diffuse meditation on man's depravity, and an advertisement of his own invaluable antidote against

the smallpox, while the second part is concerned with astrological and prophetical statements, and with a definite announcement of the end of the world in 1859, and a very careful explanation of all the mysteries of the book of Revelation.

As the work of a quack of the very first order, the work is peculiarly amusing and interesting.

CHAPTER XI

THE GUILDFORD 'FRIENDS' AND THEIR HISTORY: A GLANCE AT THE DAYS OF PERSECUTION

A MOST interesting parcel of old deeds has come into the hands of the Guildford Friends, and from them it has been possible to put together some history regarding early Quaker life in the town, and especially as to the purchase by the Friends of their burying-ground in North Street. This quiet spot in Guildford, possibly unknown to very many, has been for the past 200 years the burying-place of the Guildford Meeting of Quakers. Few religious bodies have passed through so much trouble, vicissitude, and difficulty as the Friends, and, much of their history having been written in pain and affliction, a few gleanings culled from the records of the Meeting at Guildford may perhaps have an interest that will extend beyond the narrow circle of the members of the community remaining in the town.

From a work on 'Early Friends,' by T. W. Marsh, we gather that the first minute-book of the Guildford monthly meeting refers to those who preached the doctrine of the Friends being received in 1655 by some members of the community at Guildford and Godalming, and it is at once of interest to read the name of 'Henery Gill' (a namesake, but no relation, of the kind Friend who holds the deeds in question) as one specially named in the list at that early time. In 1687, in a subsequent minute, 'the house in which Stephen Wickes dwelleth at Guildford' is referred to as the place of meeting in the town. In 1673 the Friends appear to have first acquired

property in the town when they purchased of John Lee, inn-holder, a plot of ground described as being about 15 yards by 13 yards, together with the Gate Room adjoining, being at the rear of the Crown Inn, and with a frontage to what was then called the North Town Ditch, and in the tenure of Widow Penfold. With this property they purchased a most valuable right of way through the yard of the Crown Inn from High Street to North Street, which secures the right for ever in an unalienable manner to 'all people commonly called Quakers, of egress and ingress with or without burdens, from four in the morning till ten in the evening, without let or hindrance.'

The sum of £125 was paid for the purchase, and it is needless to add that the right of usage and way is still most carefully guarded ; and, although not now needed to protect Quakers from molestation and persecution on their way to and from their meeting-house, is nevertheless a most valuable and valued right.

The deeds of purchase commence (by recital) in the fifth year of Philip and Mary, and the first deed, dated 26th September, 1558, is a lease from Richard Babb, of Guildford, John Atlinger, John Darkinge, Thomas Smallpeice, and William Snelling to Thomas Coxe, of Guildford, yeoman, of the hostel then known as the Crown Inn, and of certain other property in the lane known as Aderton or Stoke Lane. This reference to another name for Stoke Lane (now Chertsey Street) is entirely new to us, and must be investigated further.

Following this deed comes one of the 26th March, 1669, being a lease from Thomas Coxe to John Lee. Accompanying it is a slip relating to a fine of £100. The original is in Latin, and written in a very beautiful but extremely difficult handwriting ; but there is a copy in legal running hand, which bears the following quaint endorsement :

‘My son’s copy of the deed of fine, confirming my suggestion which the Guildford Attorneys, John Smallpeice, the Town Clerk, and John Sibthorpe, could not read or make out.

‘MORRIS BIRKBECK, 8 mo. 13, 1810.’

Small wonder that the solicitors of the day failed to read the crabbed writing, or to interpret the legal Latin of the slip, as many solicitors, save those whom special experience or particular study have made proficient in such matters, would be unable to decipher the deed.

Friend Birkbeck’s endorsement might, however, be read in another way, reflecting upon the manner in which he wrote his suggestion, whatever it was; but we fear his intention was to poke fun at the legal luminaries of the day.

These ‘*fines*’ were practically deeds transferring land, not payments, as we now understand the word. They were nominally the *finis*, or end, of a fictitious suit. Fines which did not relate exclusively to real property operated nominally as an amicable arrangement, putting an end (*finis*) to hostile suit in the King’s Court, and early became a popular method of conveyance, not only from their efficacy, but from the safety insured to a purchaser by the fact of a duplicate of each fine being preserved as a record in the custody of the court.

The purchase of the property by the Friends followed the date of the fine by which John Lee, being the then possessor in fee simple of the whole of the inn, sells a portion of it with the consent of his wife Ann, ‘a consenting party thereunto.’ The inn appears to have formed part of the marriage portion of Ann Lee, and there is a deed executed by her on September 7th, 1674, releasing it from her dowry. The deed of sale, dated 6th December, 1673, is in the name of four trustees:

John Cooper, baker,
Anthony Crosfield, glazier,
Stephen Wickes, clothworker,
John Remnant, tallow-chandler.

It is possible that Stephen Wickes may have resided in the house known as the Gate House, which was probably a residence over the back entrance gateway to the inn, as we learn from the minute-book that there was a tenement belonging to the meeting-house, and that for some twenty years Wickes remained as a tenant of the Friends. In 1695 he found himself unable to pay the usual rent of 50s. per annum, but he evidently did not deserve or receive much sympathy in his difficulty, for in 1695 the Friends, 'having weighed and considered the matter, unanimously concluded he should pay it, and also the arrears, and he was requested to "*voyd*" the house.'

Anthony Crosfield, the second trustee, was a benefactor to the Friends, and in the private instructions of his will, in 1739, he directs 'that a sum of £100 should be applied in part towards the enlargement of the ground, and in part for the use of the poor.'

Mr. Marsh states that no time was lost in erecting a convenient meeting-house upon the ground, and in the Dorking Meeting minute-book of 1674 is an order desiring Friends to contribute to a fund 'to reimburse Friends of Guildford in a summe of money Laid out by them for ye building of a meeting-housee.'

John Remnant, the fourth trustee, resided in St. Mary's parish, and was appointed collector for the poor for that parish in 1669. He was also appointed surveyor of highways for the same parish on December 29th, 1671, and overseer of highways for the same, December 29th, 1674.

In 1670, we learn from Besse's 'Sufferings of the Quakers' * that with two others he had a distress served

* Vol. i., p. 699.

upon him in which goods valued at £17 16s. were taken from the three of them for an attendance at a meeting held in the street when kept out of their meeting-house at Guildford.

A similar calamity at the same time befell John Cooper, Anthony Crosfield, and another, and their goods were valued at £17 15s.

It was in 1670 that we read from his diary that George Fox visited Guildford. In his journal* under that year he states :

‘And afterwards we passed into Surrey, visiting Friends, and had many precious Meetings, till we came to Stephen Smith’s, near Guildford, where great persecutions had been and very much Goods had been taken away from Friends thereabouts for their Meetings, and under great Threatnings they were at that time. Yet we had several blessed Meetings there and thereabouts, and the Lord’s Power was over all, in and by which we were preserved.’

Again, in 1680, Fox. states that he was ‘moved of the Lord to go visit Friends in some parts of Surrey and Sussex,’ and in naming several places at which he had meetings he refers to Worplesdon and Guildford.† In 1683 we again hear of Fox at Guildford ‘visiting Friends,’‡ and in 1687 we read : ‘After this I went from Kingston to Guildford to visit Friends there, and stay’d three days with them, and had a large and very good Meeting there on the First day of the Week.’§

Stephen Smith, to whom Fox alludes, resided at Worplesdon, and in an entry under date 1677 we read : ‘As we passed through Surrey, hearing that the Quarterly Meeting for that County was that day, William Penn, John Burnyeat and I went from the road to it,

* Page 342, orig. edit., 1694, folio.

† *Ut supra*, 503.

† *Ut supra*, 480.

§ *Ut supra*, 579.

and after the Meeting, returning to our other Company on the road, went on with them to William Penn's that night, which is Forty Miles from London. I stayed at Worminghurst about three weeks, and I answered a very curious and wicked book which one Roger Williams, a Priest of New England (or some Colony thereabouts), had written against Truth and Friends. When we had finished that service we went with Stephen Smith (who was there with us) to his house at Worplesdon in Surrey, where we had a large Meeting. Friends thereaway had been exceeding plundered about Two Months before on the Priest's account, for they took from Stephen Smith Five Kine (being all he had) for about Fifty shillings Tithes.'

Fox had visited Stephen Smith on a previous occasion in 1673, and we read in this connection that 'at Stephen Smith's in Surrey there was a very large Meeting, many Hundreds of People being at it. I stayed in those parts till I had cleared myself of the Service the Lord had given me to do there, and then returned by Kingston to London.'*

Stephen Smith was an eminent man amongst the Friends, and the writer of many works. From John Whiting's 'Persecution Exposed,' we take the following extract, abbreviated :

'This year (1678) died that faithful servant of God, Stephen Smith, of Worplesdon, in Surrey, a man of account in the World. He was born the 15th of the 7th month, 1623, and resided some time at Scanderoon (Alexandria), in Syria, as a merchant. He received the truth in 1665, and gave up to obey it and walk therein, and suffered both in person and estate by imprisonment and spoil of goods. An honest upright man, one that feared God and was of good report in his country ; the

* *Ut supra*, 387.

Lord endued him with a gift of ministry. He laid down the body, dying in peace with the Lord at his own house near Guildford, 22nd of 7th Month, 1678, entering into the 56th year of his age. He wrote some pretty serviceable Books and Papers, which are collected in 8vo., intituled, "The True Light discovered to all who desire to walk in the Day." 1679.'

T. W. Marsh informs us (page 19) that it does not appear that a meeting-house was ever built at Worplesdon, and the Meeting, being reduced in numbers, was amalgamated with that of Guildford in 1739. A burial-ground, however, existed, which was sold in 1852; and the writer remembers as a little boy, when staying with the late Mr. Jesse Wells at Merrest Wood Farm, Worplesdon, being taken up by him to the cornfield occupying the site of the old burial-ground, and having the boundaries of the land pointed out by Mr. Wells. The ground has long since been merged in the fields near, the boundaries and hedges removed, and the exact spot changed very much in appearance.

Stephen Smith is said to have lived in the large gray farmhouse near Merrest Wood by the side of the road, and the meetings were held in the orchard next the house, and in the winter in the large stone-floored kitchen. The orchard was probably the scene of the meeting described by Fox, at which several hundreds attended.

George Fox visited the house on many occasions, and was also often at Farnham, and in all probability visited Guildford in 1656, 1658 and 1668, beside the dates already mentioned, as in these years he was in Surrey, and on his way either to or from Farnham.

Another Friend equally celebrated—to wit, William Penn—was often at Guildford in 1679. At that time Algernon Sidney made an ineffectual struggle to obtain

a seat in Parliament through the suffrages of the men of Guildford. From 'Bohun on Elections' we learn that the inhabitants of Black Horse Lane, now styled Chapel Street, were unanimous in his favour; and the street, within the memory of those still living, was called Sidney's Alley. These inhabitants were probably the Dissenters of their day, clustering around their two meeting-houses—the one Congregationalist, now the Mission Hall, and the other Baptist, known as the Charcoal Barn Chapel, from the building having been erected on the site of the town store for charcoal. The stern old patriot Sidney had a strong party in the borough, and Penn, who was then resident in Sussex, at Worminghurst, about five and a half miles from Steyning, enthusiastically supported him, and was politically identified with Guildford in that year.

In 1684 there was an appointment of fresh trustees, who are named as follows :

Thomas Seaman, of Shier,	
Robert Smith,	} of Worplesdon, yeomen,
Richard Baker,	
John Woods,	} of Witley, yeomen,
Thomas Woods,	
Robert Mildred, of Guildford, husbandman,	
Caleb Woods, of Guildford, maltster, and	
John Smith, of Godalming, haberdasher.	

From the Guildford records we learn that Caleb Woods was chosen in 1679 to be one of the Borough Ale-tasters, but, refusing to take the oath of admittance into that office, had his goods taken by distress to the value of £1 10s. Robert Mildred, in 1677, refused to take the same oath, and was fined £2 6s. 6d.

Caleb Woods and Robert Mildred, being chosen Tithingmen in the same year, refused to take the oath of admittance into that office, and had their goods taken

away, the former to the value of £3 10s. and those of the latter to the value of £10.

In 1680, on the 25th of July, Thomas Seaman, of Shere, for being at a meeting at Guildford, had his goods taken away to the value of £13. This unfortunate man was also imprisoned on a writ 'de excommunicato capiendo,' at the suit of the churchwardens, for refusing to contribute toward the repair of the parish church.*

Truly the system of obtaining subscriptions toward the restoration of churches was a grim one in those days! In the following year Seaman was again in trouble for non-payment of tithes, and corn value £7 belonging to him was seized, and the next year exactly the same occurred, while on previous occasions—in 1661 and 1662—cows value £12 and £10 were seized for the same payment; and he was on yet another occasion imprisoned in the White Lion Prison in Southwark for attending the meeting at Guildford. As to the two trustees from Worplesdon, we read the same tale of cruel treatment. Claims were made against them to the value of £8 14s. and £8 10s., but goods were seized to the value of £17 10s. and £18, and no money was returned to the unhappy owners.

The remaining two trustees had to bear the same burden, and on July 3rd, 1683, we find the names of John and Thomas Woods amongst those prosecuted at the Quarter Sessions at Guildford for absence from national worship, and in the following August, on a similar indictment, Caleb Woods and Stephen Wickes were prosecuted for one month's absence from the parish church.

It cost something in those days of rigorous prosecution to have the courage of convictions and to announce one's self a Quaker. Imprisonment was a frequent punish-

* Besse's 'Sufferings,' Vol. i. p. 700.

ment, and so harsh was the treatment, and so bad were the gaols, that many of those imprisoned died in confinement. Fines to the extent of £20 for a month's absence from church were constantly inflicted, and there was no liberty of the person. A *mittimus* could be issued at any time upon information of illegal worship, and forthwith the poor Quaker was seized, taken from his bed or his work, and sent off to the Marshalsea, while his wife and children suffered or starved amidst a bitter and heartless people. The hatred against these early Friends it is difficult to understand, but their very quietness and inoffensiveness seemed of itself rebuking the populace—a cause of offence. We read of their being in Surrey, and even in Guildford, put into the river, kicked and trampled upon, covered with mud and filth, and stoned; and their offences causing all this ill-treatment were non-attendance at church, refusal to pay tithes and take oaths, and worshipping in their own homes and at their meeting-house. In the Guildford minute-book appears, without comment, a letter releasing Friends from the difficulty as to the oath, which stood in the way of their acceptance of municipal and other offices. It is from Whitehall, November 6th, 1687, and is directed to the Lord Mayor of London, and signed, 'Sunderland, by command of the King.' It conveys 'His Majesty's commands that his pleasure is that all Quakers should now and for the future either be allowed to serve the offices without taking any oaths, or else that they be not fined or otherwise molested on the like occasion,' and commands that orders be given accordingly. It was a most important privilege for the Friends, gained with much difficulty after much suffering, and was hailed with praise and thanksgiving as the act of a generous and thoughtful monarch.

It was at this time that the small traders' tokens were

issued in the country, and in the course of our investigation we have found that they were, as a rule, struck by the leading and most important traders in the various towns. If that were the case in Guildford, then the Friends must have been largely amongst the prosperous traders of the day, for many of the tokens were issued by them.

John Remnant, Thomas Tompson and James Snelling were amongst the number of Guildford Friends who issued tokens. To them and to the way in which they were persecuted we have already alluded in Chapter III.

The next appointment of trustees for the Guildford property was in 1756, and the following persons were appointed in lieu of those deceased :

Edward Ffawkes, draper,
 Richard Croker, cutler,
 Joseph Chandler, mealman—all of Guildford.
 Edward Pritchard, and } both mealmen,
 Benjamin Kidd, }
 Elijah Waring, surgeon,
 Thomas Edsell, wheelwright,
 William Peto, carpenter—all of Godalming.

Benjamin Kidd, of the above-named trustees, became a minister of the Society, and his was the first *testimony* issued from the Guildford Meeting. A *testimony* is an obituary account of a Friend who has taken some distinct and noteworthy position in the Society, and such *testimonies* are still issued by the Society. Members of the Kidd family still reside at Bramley.

In this deed we find that the new trustees were to pay to the remaining old ones a peppercorn annual rent if so demanded, which is the first appearance in the deeds of this legal fiction of a rent.

The ground was in this deed described as a burying-ground, but the meeting-house is not mentioned. The Gate House, however, is spoken of, and we presume, therefore, that this house was still standing, and probably contained the meeting-room. The name of Edward Ffawkes recalls the name of one of the founders of the Society, George Fox, as we believe the name of the trustee to have only been a different form of spelling Fox.

In 1777 another appointment of trustees took place, and we record the names as follows :

Thomas Passinger, mealman,
John Cooper, the younger, baker,
William Deane, chapman,
John Mildred, cheesemonger,
William Brabant, of Wonersh, maltster,
John Penfold, of Shalford, farmer,
John Baker, of Worplesdon, the son of the old trustee of the same name, and
Thomas Constable, of Worplesdon, yeoman.

In 1797 many of these had passed away, and a fresh deed was necessary. We then read of the appointment of the following :

Richard Kidd, of Godalming, mealman,
Morris Birkbeck, junior, of Wanborow Farm, yeoman,
Robert Moline, of Godalming, grocer,
John Sweetapple, of Catshill Mill, miller,
William and Thomas Chandler, of Godalming, mealmen,
Jesse Waller, druggist (uncle of the late Mr. Waller Martin, of Guildford),
Richard Daws, the younger, of Wanborow, yeoman, and
John Kidd, of Godalming, mealman.

In 1747 Samuel Bownas, a visiting Friend, speaks in a journal of Guildford Meeting as follows: 'Thence to Guildford, where we had a very small and poor meeting.'

A little later, in 1793, another Friend, Job Scott, mentions attending 'the fore and afternoon meeting at Guildford, in which Truth reigned, though things are low there.'* It is evident from the minute-books at this time that the ancient building in which the Friends had met since 1673 was rapidly approaching a condition of dissolution. The monthly meeting held at Godalming 7 of 1 mo., 1803, appointed three Friends 'to inspect the state of Guildford and Godalming meeting-houses, and make report.'

In the same year, at a meeting held at Guildford 1 or 2 mo., we read that 'the Friends appointed report that they have examined the state of Guildford Meeting-house, and it appeared to want considerable repair, and the said Friends are desired to get an estimate of the expense and bring it to the next monthly meeting.'

A little later, on 1 of 4 mo., 1803, the minute-books record that at a monthly meeting held at Guildford it is stated that 'the meeting-house at Guildford being so far gone to decay, this meeting requests the judgment of the quarterly meeting whether to repair or rebuild.'

On the 8th of the 6th month in the following year, a committee was appointed, consisting of William Chandler, Thomas Chandler, Robert Moline, John Pritchard and Richard Kidd, to fix on a plan and make reports, and on the 6th of the next month, at a meeting held at Godalming, Morris Birkbeck was added to the committee, and Robert Moline was desired to collect the subscriptions.

As we have already seen, the two brothers Chandler,

* Marsh's 'Early Friends,' p. 15.

Richard Kidd, Morris Birkbeck and Robert Moline were five of the trustees of the existing meeting-house.

The work was carried on between this time and February, 1806, as the monthly meeting held at Guildford, 7 of 2 mo., 1806, is mentioned as being 'the first meeting held in the new meeting-house,' and in this meeting-house was held the quarterly meeting for Surrey and Sussex on the 1 of 7 mo., 1806.

During the time of building the meeting-house, the Friends hired a room in which to meet, at a cost of £12 10s. ; the total cost of the new meeting-house was £1,120 6s. 9d.

The ground, purchased of Mr. Martyr, and at that time having a frontage to North Street and situate nearly opposite the old building, cost £105. The other chief items recorded are :

'John Silvester, carpenter, his own, and the smiths, plumbers and slaters' bills £505 1s. 6d.

'Edward Upton, bricklayer, £452 18s.

'Removing earth and other work in the new and old houses, also 1,000 bricks for the old burying-ground, £4 5s. 8d.'

The bricks were probably to build the wall on the north side of the burying-ground where the old meeting-house stood.

It is curious to find an entry reading, 'Beer for workmen 13s. 5d.,' as we are quite sure such an item would be most unlikely to appear in charges for the erection of Friends' meeting-houses in the present day.

The cost of the new building seems very high, considering the absolute plainness of the structure and fittings, but doubtless all the work was of the very best, although with that we fancy some heavy profits were

made by the contractors employed on the work. Against these expenses we find recorded as receipts :

‘The materials of the old meeting-house, £75.

‘Of a neighbour for a small slip of the premises to enlarge his yard, £30.

‘Subscribed by Guildford monthly meeting, £303 3s.’

Other monthly meetings also subscribed, and from many parts of England, from Devon to Westmoreland, came subscriptions. It was an era for building meeting-houses in this neighbourhood, for one was erected at Lewes in 1784, at Horsham in 1785, and at Brighton in 1805, so we may fairly reckon that the Friends of Surrey and Sussex were both numerous and fairly well-to-do at that time.

There were two more purchases made by the Society which must be recorded. The first is a purchase for £5, on May 17th, 1827, from the ‘Mayor and approved men’ of Guildford, of a piece of waste land, ‘about 20 feet by 13 feet, towards the Town Ditch,’ which very land the Corporation have had thoughts of buying back from the Friends. The purchase is signed by Richard Kidd, mealman ; Robert Moline, grocer ; Jesse Waller, druggist ; John Jeffreys, one of the sergeants at mace ; and Edmund Vincent, gentleman, on behalf of the Society ; and by Joseph Hockley for William Baldwin, and Edward Mason on behalf of the town, and bears the Corporation seal. The other purchase was made in 1875, and is a plot of land 46 feet, 6 inches, by 23 feet, with a frontage to Ward Street, and is noted as being Lot No. 53 of the Ward Estate.

Little remains for us to say. The last trust deed made contains many names, and it will bring our information up to date if we mention them. They are :

E. Waller Martin,

John Cheal,

Albert J. Crosfield,

Henry J. Gill,

Thomas Nichalls,
Thomas Marsh,
T. W. Marsh,
Joseph Robinson,
John Robinson,
John H. Dale,

Joseph Cheal,
Arthur Dann,
Thomas Sydney Marriage,
C. C. Marriage,
Chas. J. Peirson,
S. A. Sholl.

We have now arrived at quieter times, and in the comfort of their new meeting-house we would leave our worthy Friends secure at length in freedom from persecution, and in the peaceable enjoyment of a right of private judgment.

Within the past few months attention has been drawn to praise of the Quakers coming from an unexpected source. Cardinal Manning, in his 'Internal Mission of the Holy Ghost,' uses the following remarkable words: 'The Quakers hold fast to the fundamental truth of the reality of the work of the Holy Ghost. They limit the workings of the Divine Spirit to the individual soul of man. All that they need to learn,' says the Cardinal, 'to come into the fulness of truth, is that the Holy Spirit works through the Church of God.'

We cannot conclude this chapter of the history of Guildford without expressing our thanks both to Mr. Gill for the sight of the deeds, and to Mr. Rickman, of Dorking, for extracts from the minute-books of the later period of this eventful story of the meeting-house and burying-ground of the people of peace.

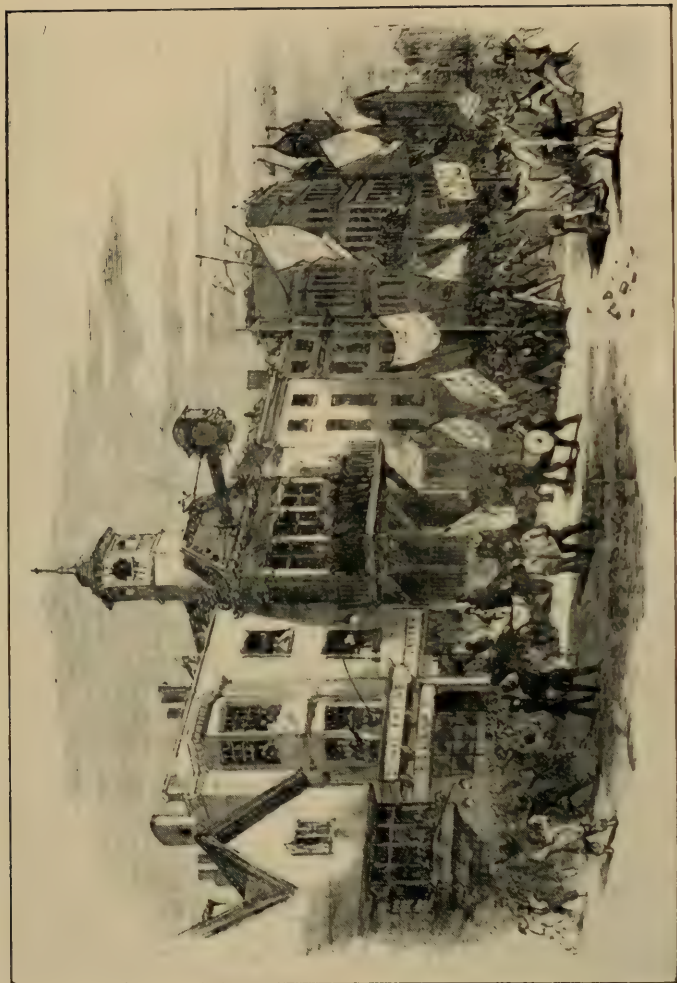
CHAPTER XII

ELECTIONS AND RIOTS

GUILDFORD was for many generations notorious for its riots. It was, perhaps, not more riotous at election times than were many other places, but its Fifth of November disturbances were special, and it had a most unenviable reputation for the disorder that existed in the town at that time. Each successive November was the occasion for the assembling together of the disorderly people of the place, and all who had a grievance against their fellow townsmen united to perform acts of revenge upon that occasion.

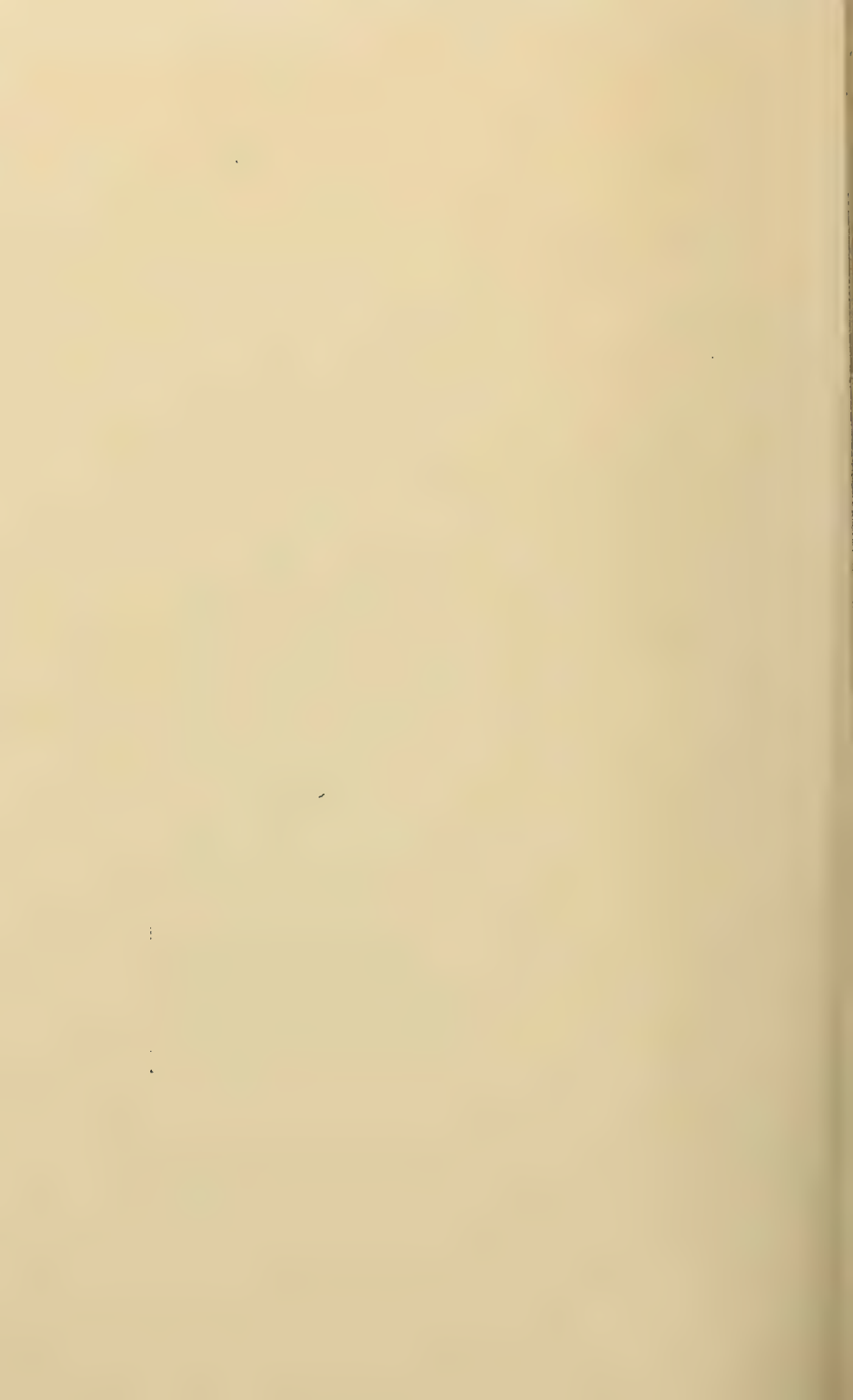
The disturbance was so considerable that all the tradesmen in the High Street closed their houses of business early in the day, and many of them barricaded their shop-fronts and provided all kinds of appliances for extinguishing fire in case of serious accident. The rioters assembled on the outside of the town, and early in the evening made their appearance in the High Street, coming down Quarry Street. They were generally known as the Guys, and they were disguised in various ways. They came marching along in military fashion, many of them carrying lighted torches and bundles of chips and faggots. They were armed with most formidable bludgeons, and were dressed in all kinds of grotesque costumes.

Their cry will never be forgotten by anyone who ever heard it. It was a thrilling, piercing note of peculiar intensity, and was a warning for all peaceable citizens to be on their guard. A huge bonfire was rapidly built and lighted opposite Holy Trinity Church, and upon it were piled all kinds of gates, palings, and palisades that



GUILDFORD HIGH STREET IN AN ELECTION RIOT.

From an old print.



had been broken down by the victorious rioters and had been taken away from the houses of all to whom they owed a special grudge. In some cases, even doors, carts, and household appliances were seized and piled on to this bonfire ; fireworks were let off, the rioters danced round this bonfire and proceeded up and down the street, insulting all persons who were about, and breaking windows and doing other serious damage in all directions.

One of the worst riots occurred in 1863, and on that occasion there were no less than two appearances of the Guys—one on the 10th of March, the Prince of Wales's wedding-day, and another, as usual, in November. Dr. Eager's windows were broken, his door-plate was battered in, his knocker and the ornaments of the door stolen, and a considerable amount of damage was done to his house, both back and front, by way of proving to him how unpopular he was. These riotous occasions were a source of great terror to the inhabitants of the town, and the destruction of property was very considerable.

It was known that many citizens who were supposed to be peaceable persons took part in them, and on more than one occasion a man who was disguised found, to his horror, that some of the woodwork he was helping to destroy had been obtained from his own premises, and was, perchance, his own front gate or a portion of his waggon.

The matter gradually assumed such a serious aspect that the town determined to put an end to the riots, and the new Borough Chief Constable, Mr. Law, pressed very strongly upon the Corporation the necessity for taking firm action.

In 1863, Mr. P. W. Jacob, who had been a magistrate in India, was elected Mayor on the understanding that he was to continue in office until the riots were disposed of.

He was Mayor for four years, and the worst riot of all occurred during his Mayoralty in 1865. On that occasion an attempt was made to murder Police-constable Stent, who was carried into Mr. Waller Martin's shop bleeding profusely, and was in danger of his life from the inflammation and erysipelas, which afterwards ensued.

In the previous year another attack had been made upon a police-constable, who was so injured that later on he died, but it had not been found possible to determine who were his assailants or to capture any of them. On January 6th, 1866, however, four men were brought up for trial in connection with the attack upon Stent, and the weapon with which he was injured, and which was successfully used in the previous year's attack, was captured. The four men were : William Nugent, John Pearson, George Stevens (*alias* Jumbo), and Edwin Reeves, and they were committed for trial and were removed to Horsemonger Lane Jail.

When Mr. Jacob became Mayor he armed the constables with cutlasses, which weapons still adorn the Borough Police Station. He also swore in a good many special constables, in some cases men who were believed to be connected with the riots. He had detachments of Lancers in and near the town, and took every step necessary to put down the riots. He was patient, and on one occasion read the Riot Act no less than three times—from the balcony of the Town Hall, from the steps of Holy Trinity Church, and from the Ram Corner—before he ordered the soldiers to clear the streets.

But for the use of the cutlasses, the men who made the murderous attempt upon Constable Stent would not have been captured. Constables West, Titley, Marshall, Davis, and Braddon, with the Chief Constable, were all concerned in the capture, and each constable was attacked, Davis and West receiving very serious injuries. Mr.

Bakewell, of Market Street, produced in court a huge piece of granite, weighing over forty pounds, which had been thrown by the Guys into his shop.

The weapon carried by the leader of the riots in 1865 is now in the author's possession. It is about 3 feet long, painted green, and well roughened at one end to afford a good grasp. It is formed from a heavy pole or about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, thickly studded with the square nails used by cobblers for heavy boots. At the upper end is a murderous 3-inch sharp-pointed iron spike, and below it are studded a quantity of iron brads, driven in at the heads, with the points protruding more than half an inch. It is ostentatiously marked 'V.R.', in imitation of the special constables' staves. A more dangerous weapon for *breaking* the Queen's peace could hardly have been made, and it has the appearance more of a cannibal club than of any weapon of civilised times.

This riot of 1865 was the last serious one in the town. In the following year—the last of Mr. Jacob's Mayoralty—a strong attempt was made to revive the riots, but mounted soldiers quickly cleared the streets; their horses broke up the bonfire and scattered its materials in all directions. In 1868, when Mr. Upperton was Mayor, a final attempt was made, but the rioters were dispersed by the constables and their special assistants; and since then, to the great satisfaction of all peaceable citizens, horrible disturbances have ceased, and the persons and property of Guildford men and women have no longer been at the mercy of a disaffected mob.

The destruction of the whole of the glass at the draper's shop kept by Mr. Weale will be remembered as one of the notable events of these riots, and on these and on other occasions there was grave danger of the whole premises being burnt down, as the rioters, having broken

the glass, threw fireworks into the room. On another occasion almost all the palisading enclosing what is now known as the Sports Ground was torn down, and no less than nine carts were filled with this woodwork when it was brought by the Guys to the bonfire.

The party disputes at the time of the elections were also a fruitful source of disorder, and it may be interesting perhaps to review the procedure at one of them, as the habits of the time have so completely changed.

As an example, the General Election of 1790 may be selected. The Mayor at the time was John Russell, Mr. Sibthorpe was Town Clerk, the Hon. Fletcher Norton Recorder, and George, Lord Onslow and Cranley, High Steward. The magistrates (who had all served the office of Mayor), were Messrs. Peché, Stares, Brinkwell, Vincent, Wise, and Pickstone, and these gentlemen took somewhat the position now assigned to aldermen, the last three only, with the Mayor, being Justices of the Peace. The bailiffs were twenty-eight in number—Messrs. Beauchamp, Richard Elkins, E. Elkins, Haydon, Willes, Gunn, Jennings, Sparkes, William Russell, Samuel Russell, Terry, Arundel, Kingham, C. Booker, Bladworth, Wakeford, Harrison, Goodyear, John Nealds, Plaisto, Cooke, Humphrey, Nye, Leggatt, Jeffries, Hawkley, Horn, and Tickner.

The precept for the writ was received by the Mayor from Mr. Samuel Long, the Sheriff, and, on the 21st or June, at eight o'clock in the morning, the Mayor, assisted by A. Piggott, his counsel, came to the Town Hall. The Acts for the prevention of bribery and corruption and for preventing others than freemen from voting were read, and the three candidates were proposed.

The Hon. Thomas Onslow was proposed by Mr. John Shrubbs and supported by Mr. William Newland, the old doctor then resident where Miss Wenham's school was

lately carried on. The Hon. Major-General Chapple Norton was proposed by Mr. Martyr and supported by Dr. Smith, and Mr. George Sumner was nominated by Mr. Skurrey and supported by the Rev. Mr. Clifton.

The poll commenced at ten o'clock and closed at five that same afternoon, and it was an interesting performance, as each candidate was represented by counsel, who had the privilege of questioning the voters one by one as they came to record their votes. All the questions and answers were taken down and afterwards printed, and from the books of the proceedings the information as to these elections is taken. The counsel were empowered to call for the production of the deeds of the property under which the freeholders claimed, but in many cases the deeds were not produced, and the voters refused to produce them.

A Mr. William Parsons, scrivener, of High Street, voting for Sumner, was seriously questioned whether, having two houses, one in and one without the town, the former was not expressly retained for the purposes of the vote. He explained that he used it as an office, but did not live there, but he had lodged for forty nights in the house. The rent he paid was £7 a year, and he let off part of it for four guineas, so he had a vote for less than £3 a year. Mr. John Oliver, of High Street, was questioned in the following way :

‘How long have you had your freehold?’

‘About three weeks.’

‘Do you not mean to sell directly after the election?’

‘I never mean to sell it.’

‘Did you not say how you would vote if that house was not sold?’

‘No, I did not.’

‘Did not your landlord say that he had sold the house in order that his tenant might vote?’

These words being proved, it was held that a man who takes property on the eve of an election should not be admitted to vote, but the opposing counsel cleverly made out that no one could have known for certain three weeks before the election that an election was to take place, although they might have fancied it would do, and there was, therefore, no legal proof that the property was obtained for the vote, and it was allowed.

Mr. Henry Horner, a carpenter, claimed to vote for a house conveyed to him only the previous day by Mr. Hockley, which, the counsel affirmed, was to be re-conveyed back the day the election was over. Here, again, there could be no legal proof; and, as the first conveyance was in order, the vote was passed.

Mr. Solomon Saker, a patten-maker, declared that he had bought his own premises, but could produce no conveyance. Mr. Dunn, the agent to Lord Cranley, happened, however, most conveniently to be in court, and in reply to a question gave the equivocal answer that Lord Cranley received no rent of Saker now. This was accepted as *primâ facie* evidence that Lord Cranley had sold and Saker had bought the property, and the vote was allowed.

Another voter had always paid rates up till quite lately, but for two years no rates had been demanded, and he therefore concluded that the property had been given him, and that he was a freeholder, and voted accordingly.

In another case, the rate collector had forgotten to make up his book, and he stated he believed the voter owned the house in which he lived, but was not quite sure. The voter himself declared that he did, but had forgotten when he bought it, and the vote was passed.

Mr. Benjamin Keene was questioned as to whether he or his wife received parochial relief, which would have invalidated his vote, but neither he nor Mrs. Keene were

able to remember as to whether they ever had received it, and the somewhat curious lapse of memory affected the various witnesses in court, who could none of them be quite sure whether the Keenes had been in receipt of relief or not. Oddly enough, the relief-book could not be found ; but, as the Mayor stated that it would take a long time to search for it, and other voters were coming along, he passed the vote.

Mr. Samuel Cole, of the Grammar School, declared that one wall of a stable was his freehold, and proved it from the fact that he put a cow in the stable. Nobody had ever seen the cow in the stable till the previous day, but that did not matter, and Mr. Cole's claim to vote was allowed.

Mr. Vincent said he had a wine-cellar and kept wine in it. Twelve bottles, he declared, were his ; the owner of the rest of the bottles, believing that Mr. Vincent was right, stated that these twelve bottles were certainly not *his* property, therefore Mr. Vincent was declared freeholder of the cellar, and he had his vote.

In the addresses given by the voters one notices a change in the names of many of the streets. Chapel Street was then recorded as Black Horse Lane, Milkhouse Gate as Saddler's Gate, Park Street as Park Lane, Swan Lane as Swan Yard or Book Yard, and part of High Street as Prince's Street or Duke Street. Some of the trades of the freeholders are such as do not now appear—such as scrivener, tinsplate-worker, cordwainer, patten-maker, stirrup-merchant, net-maker, peruke-maker, and glover.

The poll at five o'clock stood as follows : Onslow, 67 ; Norton, 43 ; Sumner, 46, the voters having been only 86 in number. Of all these, four, being citizens of London, were not questioned at all, the Mayor stating that, inasmuch as they had come all the way from London to vote, it was quite clear that they possessed votes, and it

would only waste the time of the court to ask them what these votes were.

The next day, at ten o'clock, the court opened, but General Norton at once announced that he found there was an apparent majority against him ; and, although it was but small—three only—it was yet decisive, and would not permit him to continue the poll. A memorandum in the poll-book shows that he had polled all his votes, whereas his opponents had a few more to come, and he therefore resigned, and Onslow and Sumner were declared elected.

The expenses of the counsel for the Mayor were divided amongst the three candidates, and Mr. Pigott received the thanks of the electors, and was admitted to the freedom of the town without payment of fine. The poll-book then records the speeches of the candidates, with the following quaint statement at the end, that 'as it is not expected, so it cannot be the wish of the gentlemen to see the whole of their extemporary orations printed, not to say that it might give cause of offence to them.'

In Mr. Sumner's speech he admitted himself to be overcome with gratitude to the electors, and unable to say more, but he continued speaking for more than half-an-hour longer. There were only two hundred persons qualified to vote at that time, and the Beadle who lived at Rat's Gate, Mr. Peché, the Surveyor of Windows, Mr. Sturt the painter, Mr. Dowlen the collar-maker, and Mr. William Russell the musician, were all voting elsewhere, and several other people declared to their great regret that they were unable to vote for either candidate, or were ill.

As soon as the election was over, the public-houses were thrown open, the two Members paying for whatever was required, and a scene of great disorder ensued, and a riot which extended far into the night.

So fond were Guildford people of riots, that similar disturbances often took place at the election of churchwardens, and of the Town Council. That very same year there were riots at the election of churchwardens at Holy Trinity, caveats to the House of Commons entered against those who were elected, new churchwardens could not be sworn, and the writs for all three parishes had to be signed by the old wardens.

On October 5th, a disturbance took place in connection with the election for the Town Council, which became so serious that the clergy refused to allow the bells to be rung, and we are told 'that the greater part of the chief inhabitants, and those of the minority in the Corporation, withdrew from the banquet given to the Mayor, and to the number of eighty spent a happy evening at the White Hart, to manifest their dissension from the politics and the action of the Corporation.'

The writer who records this election says 'that the party disputes were very remote from being terminated,' but he concludes his account with the following sage remark: 'The scene is now at an end, and it is time that there should be a termination of all differences and contentions, that a friendly union succeed, and a laudable emulation subsist among the Corporation, the electors and inhabitants of the town, with the purpose of promoting the welfare of the whole place, and the preservation of their ancient rights and privileges.'

A certain amount of disturbance used to take place in Guildford on the occasion of the Fairs in May and November, but quarrels were very quickly settled in Fair week by the Court of Piepowder. The Guildford fairs were chartered, and the charter of November 23rd, 1285, under which they were held, has in it the following clause: 'And furthermore we have granted to

the aforesaid Mayor and goodmen that they and their successors shall have for ever a Piepowder's Court from hore to hore, and all things that belongeth to the same Court within the town aforesaid for ever.'

The charter goes on to give very full powers to this Court for collecting dues, settling quarrels and complaints, and deciding disputes.

Now here we have a court referred to than which there is no older court in the world. Demosthenes makes it quite plain that in connection both with the festivals of Bacchus and the Olympic Games there existed temporary courts of justice to decide disputes.

In Roman markets and in Anglo-Saxon fairs the same habit existed, and the necessity in all fairs of a tribunal which could promptly deal with the differences arising among the fleeting population was the same, quite irrespective of where the fair might chance to be held. Fairs were in the old days the means of distributing trade and often the only way by which household requisites could be obtained all the year round.

The privileges of all were strictly defined and jealously guarded. The right to hold them was a valuable grant and endowment, a trade charter from the Crown—as real a privilege as the one recently granted to the South African Company—and it was full of promise of fees and profit. Traders attending the fairs were secured against competition, and special regulations covered every detail of the fair life.

Internally the fair was governed by the Court or Piepowder, over which the Lord of the Fair or his steward generally presided. Mr. Henry Morley says: 'There is no record to be found of any ordinance by which this court was first established in this country. There never has been known a fair in all Europe to which such a court was not by usage lawfully attached.'

‘Over all commercial complaints,’ another writer states, ‘its authority was absolute—an offender might be taken, a jury of similar traders empanelled on the spot, evidence heard at once, and he would be perhaps commencing his punishment all within an hour.’

It may be well, however, to consider the curious name of this interesting court, which was in full force in Guildford down to 1715, and in Farnham to about the same time. Its Latin title was *Curia pedis pulverizati*, in Norman-French *pied puldreaux*—alike in each case, it is supposed, in reference to, or typical of, the dusty feet of the suitors.

Barrington tells us that ‘an alien merchant was called in Normandy *Pied puldreaux*, and likewise the Farand man’ (or fairing man). We have in English a word from much the same derivative—pedlar, one who vends his goods where he can, travelling from place to place. The Court of Piepowder, then, in simpler language, is a Court of Pedlars. Skene, in his ‘Lawes and Actes, 1597,’ puts in his glossary: ‘*Pede Pulverosus*, or ane French word, *Pied puldreaux*, that is, *Dustie fute*, or a *vagabond*, speciallic ane merchand or *cremar* (from German *kramer*, a dealer or trader), qwha hes na certaine dwelling place.’ Again, further on, the same author states: ‘Gif any stranger merchand travell and threw the realm havand no land nor residence nor dwelling within the sherifdome but vagand (see Latin *vagare*) from ane place to ane other qwha therefore is called *pied perdreux*, or *Dusti fute*.’ ‘Justice,’ says Cornelius Walford, ‘was done in these courts as speedily as dust can fall from the feet.’

So much for the derivation of the name, the word dusty-foot, as applied to a pedlar, still, it may be noticed by the way, remaining in Scots use.

Courts of Piepowder received full recognition by the

law. 'They had,' says Walford, 'jurisdiction only in commercial matters. The court tried men before a jury of traders formed on the spot. It could entertain a case of slander if of goods or ware exhibited, but not of the trader who vended the same.' It could try a thief committing robbery in the fair if caught within its limits. It could hold pleas for amounts not over 40s., and its judgments could be deferred and enforced at the next fair.

It is in the 17th year of Edward I. (1291), that an important Act safeguarding its rights and clearly defining them was passed, and constantly down to the time of George III. fresh legal recognition was given to the court. None of the important Acts have been abrogated or repealed, and here we have the remarkable fact that ready to hand for revival, complete with all its powers intact and its duties defined, is a court with which our forefathers from Anglo-Saxon times have been perfectly familiar, and which exists at the present day in some few places complete in its integrity.

On August 13th, 1881, the ancient Fair was opened at Newcastle at the Guildhall by the Mayor and Sheriff, and notice given as follows: 'That a Court of Piepowder will be holden during the time of the fair, that is to say, one in the forenoon and another in the afternoon, where rich and poor may have justice administered to them according to the law of the land and the customs of this town.' A similar proclamation is duly made at Modbury, South Devon, on May 4th, the eve of St. George's Day, by the Portreeve.

One of the greatest of Fairs, and perhaps the most important of all, was that of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, and the Prior of St. Bartholomew's Priory was lord of the fair until 1445. The court was held at the gates of the Priory, near by what is still called Cloth Fair.

After 1445 the City claimed a joint lordship with the Prior, and four Aldermen were regularly appointed lords or keepers of the fair and of the Court of Piepowder. This state of affairs continued till 1830, when the Corporation bought of Lord Kensington, the then owner of them, the Priory rights in the fair. The fair, however, which from time immemorial had been opened by successive Lord Mayors, was dying fast. In 1830 the shows were moved to Islington; in 1840 rents were raised and only wild beast shows retained in Smithfield; and in 1850, when Lord Mayor Musgrove went to open the fair, behold it had vanished!

In the provinces, as we have already stated, both fair and court live. Yarmouth and Boston, Hull and Winchester, still retain documents and books as to this court, which at St. Giles' Fair, Winchester, was a specially important local fixture. A Bishop of Winchester, temp. Edward IV., William of Waynflete, specially authorised the court under a grant from the King, and granted to it an exceptional privilege of continuance a week after the close of the fair. Later, Bishops Fox, Gardiner and Bilson referred to the court and the fair in their episcopal enactments, and Trelawney and Hoadley personally opened the fair and court.

In quite recent times—1784—Brownlow North, then Bishop, freely recognised the existence of the courts, both at Winchester and Farnham, and was proclaimed lord of each fair, and received by his steward the 'tolls, fees, fynnes, redemptions, amerciaments, forfeitures, leavys and escheats' collected from those who frequented these fairs.

These fairs still are held, and 'Whitaker's Almanac' gives a list of some 1,800 others that are regularly held in every county of England and Wales. Many of them represent the oldest form of English commerce, habits or

life and custom that have steadily lived for eight or more centuries, and which in their regular occurrence afford much interest to the antiquary, and revivify past pages of England's history.

One fair is, however, of immortal memory, and that is the so-called Vanity Fair, described in glowing language by John Bunyan in the 'Pilgrim's Progress.' So faithful a picture does the dreamer give us of his own times that his fair has a Court of Piepowder: there is a lord of the fair, who correctly enough is freeholder or the ground on which the fair was held. Christian and Faithful offend against the customs of the fair and regulations of the Gild; they are taken to the court, a jury is empanelled, evidence given by three witnesses, verdict brought in and sentence pronounced by Lord Hate-good, the judge, and forthwith execution made, and poor Faithful burned at the stake in the precincts of the fair. The description of Bunyan's Court of Summary Jurisdiction is a wonderful one, complete and exact in every minor detail, and gives a vivid picture of his times.

The Court of Piepowder lasted in Guildford down to the beginning of the nineteenth century. In Bristol, it survived till 1885, in Ely it still continues, and at Newcastle, Sturbridge, and Modbury, and at Peterborough so great is the demand for a rough-and-ready court, by which, without the troublesome routine of the County Court, local disputes can be settled, that the old jurisdiction has been revived.

Records respecting it exist in Guildford down to 1715, but from that time till 1801, when the last mention of it occurs in the town books, it is only casually alluded to. The powers under the charter, still, however, have full force, and, as they have been revived in Peterborough, they could be, if necessary, revived in Guildford.

The town fair was then held in the High Street, and the Court of Piepowder sat at one time in Baker's Market-house, which stood opposite Holy Trinity Church, and at another time just within the church gates. The fees, which were very small, were the perquisite of the Mayor, who appears to have had the privilege of deciding the cases, if he thought fit, without legal advice, on what may be called commonsense ideas. The great merit of the court was its ability to settle disputes at once, and the town books seem to show that the prison, or cage, as it was then called, was generally quite full during fair week, although those who were arrested during the fair were generally discharged as soon as the fair was over.

The quaint privilege of ordering tolls belonged to Courts of Piepowder, and, as examples of this privilege, one egg in every thirty was taken at Berwick-on-Tweed, and the tongues of all oxen killed during fair week at Dungannon were claimed as tolls by the Mayor of the place.

CHAPTER XIII

THE GUILDFORD INSTITUTE AND ITS HISTORY

ON the 11th of March, 1834, was first founded the Guildford Mechanics' Institution for the promotion of useful knowledge among the working classes. The meeting appointed five persons—Eliza Heathorn, James Ellis, John Whitfield, Robert Highgason, and John Cooke, of whom the last-named survived till quite recent days, to frame a body of rules.

These rules were most elaborately complete in all their details, and were submitted to a body of members on April 1st, 1834. Mr. John Crosskey, linendraper, of High Street, predecessor to Mr. Edwin Kensett and Mr. John Cable, was elected president; Mr. James Steer, treasurer; Mr. Edmund Vincent, whom many in Guildford well remember, was the first secretary; and Mr. John Cooke librarian. The original members, besides those already named, included Charles Witherby, Isaac Ellis, William Stevens, Charles Cooke, W. Spershott, William Cheney, George Holt, C. Heyward, John Baverstock, Daniel Herd, J. Dart, W. Busby, and William Strudwick.

Such were the names of the little body who initiated the work of education in Guildford. The meeting was held in Mr. Whitburn's auction-room, which now forms a portion of the premises at 45. High Street. Mr. Vincent soon resigned his post, and Mr. William Stent succeeded him.

Mr. Crosskey and Mr. Busby both lent books for a period of six to twelve months, and several books were purchased. Their names give us a clear understanding of

the high aim that the young society had set before itself. We notice treatises on machinery, astronomy, hydrostatics, pneumatics, optics, and mechanics by all the leading physicists of the day in the list; together with works by Martineau and Goldsmith, and such books as Enfield's 'Speaker,' Percy 'Anecdotes,' Burns' poems, 'Rasselas,' 'Marmion,' Shakespeare, and the Corn Law publications.

On October 24th, 1834, the young society, amongst whose committee we now find the name of William Pimm, determined to commence a series of lectures, and engaged Dr. Epps to give three lectures on phrenology at a cost of £5 5s. The lectures seem to have been very successful, and the lecturer presented to the library four important books on the subject, which were gratefully received.

In the following month Mr. Waller Martin and Mr. Mark Dowlen joined the society, also Mr. Frank Apted, and Mr. F. Piggott was appointed librarian. At this stage Mr. C. B. Wall, M.P., sent £5 to the society, and was admitted a life member. Almost immediately afterwards there was evidently a difficulty in the affairs. Several members applied to withdraw from the society, and their names were erased. Mr. Wall's donation of £5 was returned at his request, and votes of censure and of confidence were proposed in a somewhat disorderly meeting.

On April 7th, 1835, was held a general meeting, and things appear to have now assumed a quiet and comfortable aspect. Mr. Joseph Hockley was appointed president, and twenty-seven more members, including Mr. Bullen, joined the ranks. Mr. Mangles made a liberal donation of books in that year, and, failing accommodation in which to bestow them, the committee instructed Mr. Pimm to make a bookcase at a cost not exceeding

55s., and Mr. Boughton to paint the bookcase for 9d. ! In this same year there appears for the first time a balance-sheet of the society. The subscriptions and donations produced £25 2s., the lectures £1 18s., and fines 5s. ; while there was expended for printing, £2 9s. ; stationery, 10s. ; candles, 7s. 2½d. ; fires, 7s. 6d. ; coal-chest, 6s. ; lock, 4s. ; lamp for passage, 5s. 9d. ; and lecturers' expenses, 15s. Mr. Whitburn's rent of the room was now to be £5 6s. 8d. per annum. The book-case ordered appears in the next quarterly balance-sheet.

In November, 1835, Mr. Crosskey made to the committee an offer of two rooms in Stevens' Passage, at the back of his shop, for six guineas a year for three years, and promised to forego the first half-year's rent in order that the committee might put the premises into suitable repair. The offer was accepted, and the society moved soon after to its new premises.

During this time a rival society had been formed, having its origin in political squabbling about Mr. Wall and his donation of £5, already referred to.

The new society was called the Literary and Scientific Institution for Mechanics and others. It was formed on February 28th, 1835, by some forty persons who withdrew from the original society. Its first important meeting was held at the Angel Inn upon March 10th, and Mr. C. Boxall offered the accommodation of a room in the inn and the use of his excellent library. Mr. W. Stent, Mr. W. Strudwick, Mr. T. Lovett, Mr. J. and Mr. G. Russell, Mr. J. Mason, and Mr. Jas. Freakes were among the original members of this society.

In a month it had doubled its membership. Mr. Henry Drummond was appointed president, Captain Jones and Mr. Eager vice-presidents, Mr. F. Piggott treasurer, Mr. P. Blake secretary, and Mr. Stent one of the librarians. The society now included in its membership E. Andrews,

Geo. Sprent, W. Newland, J. Stedman, Colonel Onslow, R. Jarlett, J. Butler, W. O. Emlyn, and many other well-known local men. Sixpence per quarter per member was to be paid Mr. Boxall for the use of the room, and 2s. a week for lights and fire. Mr. Drummond from the earliest date took this society under his especial shelter—presented globes, maps, and books to it, and assisted it largely in fitting up the room in Angel Yard as a permanent home. Lectures on vocal music, chemistry, mesmerism, psalmody, and mineralogy were delivered, and the society had most promptly proved a sound financial and numerical success. A museum was started by Mr. Drummond and enriched with objects of natural history and geology from his own collection. Mr. Nealds was also amongst the early contributors to the museum, which took more the form of a collection of curiosities than an actual museum.

On November 3rd, 1836, the committees of the two societies met for conference, seeking a *modus vivendi* with a view to union, but the idea fell through, and directly afterwards Mr. Drummond gave to the Literary and Scientific Institution a large collection of coins and casts, fossils, shells and models, and a collection of philosophical instruments for the museum. In 1837 considerable alterations were made to the long room at the Angel by the landlord, and a new agreement for six years was signed. By this time a good library had been got together, the books being purchased at 15 per cent. discount from Mr. Lucy and Mr. Russell. The membership was now 259.

In 1838 a class was formed for the study of French under Monsieur Prel, and the museum was thrown open to public inspection and visited by over 400 persons. In 1839 (October 3rd) Mr. Drummond, as president, suggested that the institution should have a motto, and proposed the following one, which was at once accepted :

‘*Otium sine literis mors est, et vivi hominis sepultura.*’ At this same meeting it was decided to light the reading-room with gas. By this time a more friendly feeling existed between the two societies, and arrangements were made for mutual attendance at the lectures that were given upon advantageous terms.

In November, 1840, overtures to the Mechanics’ Institution were made and again declined. In March, 1841, three newspapers were, after much vigorous discussion, purchased regularly for the reading-room, greatly to the offence of some of the members, who considered such luxuries quite unnecessary. The three papers were the ‘Times,’ ‘Chronicle,’ and ‘Herald,’ costing 5d. each!

We must now pass on to June 14th, 1843, and we then find that after many *pourparlers*, and earnest efforts on the part of the Messrs. Russell, a union of the two societies was at last agreed upon, and a joint meeting of the committees held. Mr. Chas. Foster was in the chair, and it was decided to call the united institution the Guildford Institute. Mr. Drummond was retained as president, and all the other officers resigned.

It is not our purpose to pursue the society in its new career beyond briefly stating a few facts. A year or two after its formation a scheme was set on foot for the erection of public halls in the town. The Public Hall Company was formed, and amongst its original shareholders were Mr. Henry Currie, Mr. C. B. Wall, M.P., and Mr. Denison, M.P. The shares were for £35 each, and Messrs. Currie and Wall very generously presented their six shares to the new Institute. The Institute took up its abode in the recently-erected premises, and upon the death of Mr. Denison became possessed of a further share in the property.

Lord Londesborough presented to the Institute the four shares that had been owned by his uncle. The gift

occasioned, so Mr. Bullen tells us, a lively squabble, as it was claimed by the Choral Society, under Mr. Lemare. Even when transferred by the donor to the Institute, the scrip could not be found, and the directors insisted upon a bond of indemnity, which was prepared by Mr. Capron at the cost of the Institute. Some years afterwards the original scrip was found in the issue book at Mr. Capron's office, never having been delivered to Mr. Denison, and with great generosity Mr. Capron at once returned to the Institute the costs paid him for preparing the deed.

Our old friend Mr. Bullen's eye sparkled as he remembered another story about the society—how he himself found the missing trust-deed of the Institute in the very house in which he now lives, but which then was tenanted by Mr. Piggott, the actuary. Mr. Piggott had strongly declared that he had not got the deed, but in an old box, amongst some other papers, Mr. Bullen unexpectedly came across it, to his great delight. When the County and Borough Halls Company was formed, the £350 held by the Institute was transferred to scrip of the new company, and various gifts were made, increasing it. Mr. Evelyn gave two shares, Mr. Currie five, Mr. S. Gurney five, a tradesman two, Mr. Guildford Onslow five, another friend two, and the Institute bought five, making their present holding up to ninety-five shares.

Early in the sixties it was felt that the subscription of the Guildford Institute was too high for working men, and so once more a rival institution sprang into being. Once again Mr. Bullen was to the fore, and, as far as we can understand, he, Mr. May Colebrook, and a Mr. Blindell, now of Brighton, were the three original founders of the Working Men's Institution, which achieved so remarkable a success and become so deservedly popular.

We must mention one other very generous supporter of the Guildford Institute before we close. We allude to Mr. Edward Jekyll, then of Bramley House. He it was, next after Mr. Drummond, who acted as generous patron to the society. He furnished the reading-room at his own cost, gave pictures, books, and money with a lavish hand, and was a munificent helper of the work. In Sir William Bovill, the Working Men's Institution had a similar friend, and shares in the County and Borough Halls Company were left by him in trust for the society. Mr. Drummond's great interest and kindly aid were recognised after his death by an invitation to his grandson, Earl Percy, to assume the presidency of the society. This invitation was accepted, and Earl Percy, now Duke of Northumberland, became president, taking up in his person the good work initiated and warmly supported by Mr. Drummond.

The two societies continued to have a separate existence down to 1892, and then once more they united.

This time a new building in Ward Street was purchased and this important local Society greatly increased in numbers by the amalgamation, started a fresh lease of life under entirely new circumstances, and, judging from the advance in numbers that has been made, it bids fair to have a long and prosperous career before it.

CHAPTER XIV

GUILDFORD FIFTY YEARS AGO

A SIGHT of three old copies of Russell's Almanack for Guildford, dated respectively 1835, 1836 and 1837, and the perusal of the quaint old books, set one thinking of the contrast between Guildford then and Guildford now. The very title page, having the words 'Published at the Library, Guildford,' tells us of the state of the bookselling trade in the town, and points out that but one shop, that kept by Messrs. G. W. and J. Russell, could claim to be considered the Library. The almanack which follows gives us several interesting facts.

On February 1st, 1808, we learn the Stoke Prosecuting Society was established, which offered rewards of £10 against murder, burglary, robbery and arson; £5 against stealing, shop-lifting and receiving stolen goods; and one guinea for smaller crimes. We suppose this society carried out work which now falls to the share of Government and the police.

On February 28th, 1835, we are told, was established the society with the grand title of 'The Guildford Literary and Scientific Institute for Mechanics and Others,' mentioned in the previous chapter. In 1837 it met in a spacious reading-room in Angel Gate every evening except Sundays. It possessed a library of 600 volumes, a pair of globes, a curious and beautiful glass celestial sphere enclosing a terrestrial globe, an assortment of maps on spring-rollers, a planisphere and some atlases, and in ten days numbered 101 members. It also boasted of some botanical specimens of grasses, a magnificent

case of 20 specimens of American ornithology, and a miscellaneous collection of minerals and fossils not yet arranged, a series of 3,000 coins and casts, and a quantity of scientific apparatus. Mr. Piggott, the treasurer, in 1837, appealed for funds, and the almanack strongly supported his appeal.

Further on the same book records the foundation, on April 1st, 1834, of the Mechanics' Institution, meeting in Stevens' Gate, at the back of Mr. Crosskey's premises, linendraper in High Street, now Cable's Passage.

On May 3rd, 1824, so says the almanack, Guildford was first lighted by gas.

On June 2nd, 1759, the Guildford Watch and Light Act passed. On June 24th, 1763, Russell's printing office was first established. On June 9th, 1216, the almanack refers to the capture of Guildford Castle by Louis the Dauphin. Mr. Russell mentions that on June 7th, 1836, the foundation-stone of St. Nicholas' was laid by the Dean of Salisbury, the Very Rev. Hugh Nicolas Pearson, D.D., at that time patron and incumbent. The building was estimated to cost £2,886, and the organ £250 extra, and towards this amount £2,650 was in hand.

On June 26th we read of a meeting of trustees of the Bluecoat School, which now exists only in the memories of the past. The master's name was Mr. Abraham Thayres, and there were twenty boys educated in the tower of Trinity Church. The commencement of the system of district visiting in Guildford is alluded to in the almanack. It records the establishment on August 24th, 1834, of the S. Nicholas District Visiting Society, under the presidentship of the Dean of Salisbury, which was formed to carry on the work of visiting, helping, advising, and nourishing the poor on very similar lines to

the work which now forms an integral part of parochial activity all over the kingdom.

In September we find the mention that on September 29th, 1836, a dinner was given to the Rev. H. Ayling, master of the Grammar School, by some of his late pupils, when he was presented with two superb vases suitably inscribed, and it is announced that at the particular request of the Mayor and Corporation Mr. Ayling consented to remain till Midsummer, 1837, to give them time to appoint his successor. On the same day—September 29th, 1836—the first exhibition of dahlias took place in Guildford. It was held at the White Lion, and very poorly attended. Twelve prizes were given, and after the show the Guildford Horticultural and Floricultural Society was established, Mr. T. Dickenson being first secretary and treasurer.

The calendar records in the following order several other dates of interest in local history, amongst them being :

Jan. 7th. Charter granted to Guildford, 1256-57.

Jan. 21st. Charter granted by Edward III., including fair, 1340-41.

April 1st. Wey and Arun Act passed, 1813.

April 5th. First stone of Guildford Hospital laid, 1619.

April 24th. Tower of Trinity Church fell, 1740.

June 20th. Guildford Hospital Charter granted, 1621.

July 21st. Hermann, first Prior of the Friary, died, 1373.

Aug. 22nd. First stone of Trinity Church laid, 1749.

Aug. 30th. Commission granted to Guildford justices by James I., 1602.

Sept. 5th. Archbishop Abbott died, 1633.

Sept. 7th. Further charter granted to Guildford, 1257.

Sept. 8th. Poyle Manor Estate granted to the poor, 1643.

Oct. 13th. Butter, Eggs, and Poultry Market established, 1800.

Oct. 29th. Archbishop Abbott born, 1562.

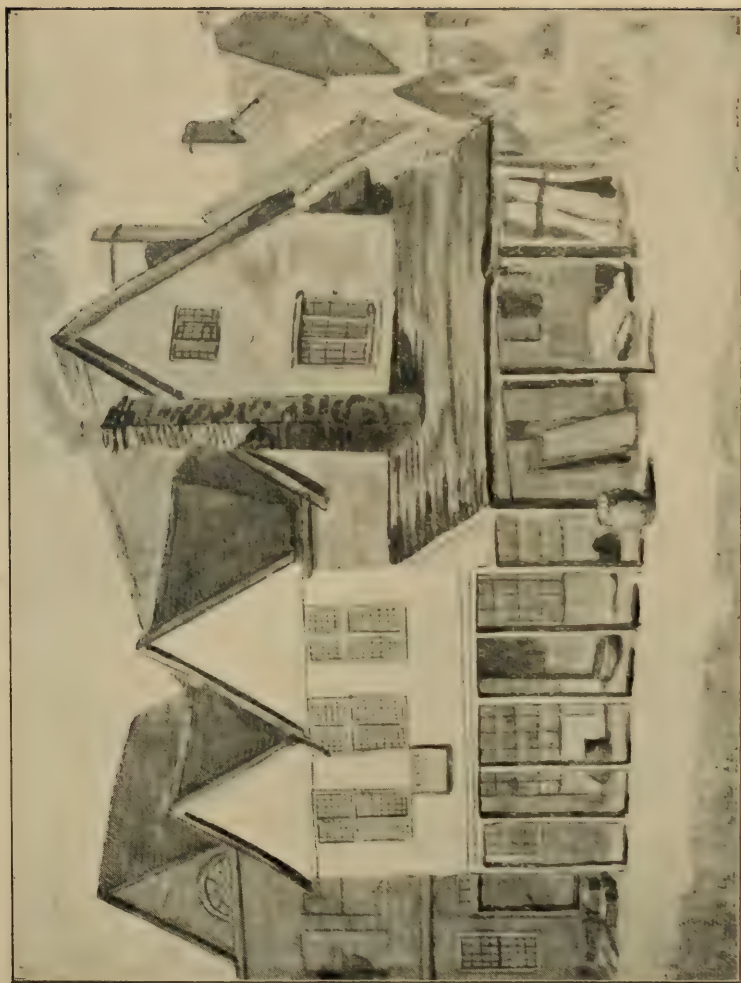
Nov. 4th. Charter for St. Catherine Hill Fair first granted, 1308, by Edward II. at the request of Richard de Wauncy, Parson of St. Nicholas.

Nov. 16th. Andrew le Constable and John Nicole first members returned for Guildford, 1272.

Nov. 28th. Guildford Charter renewed and confirmed, 1423, by Henry VI.

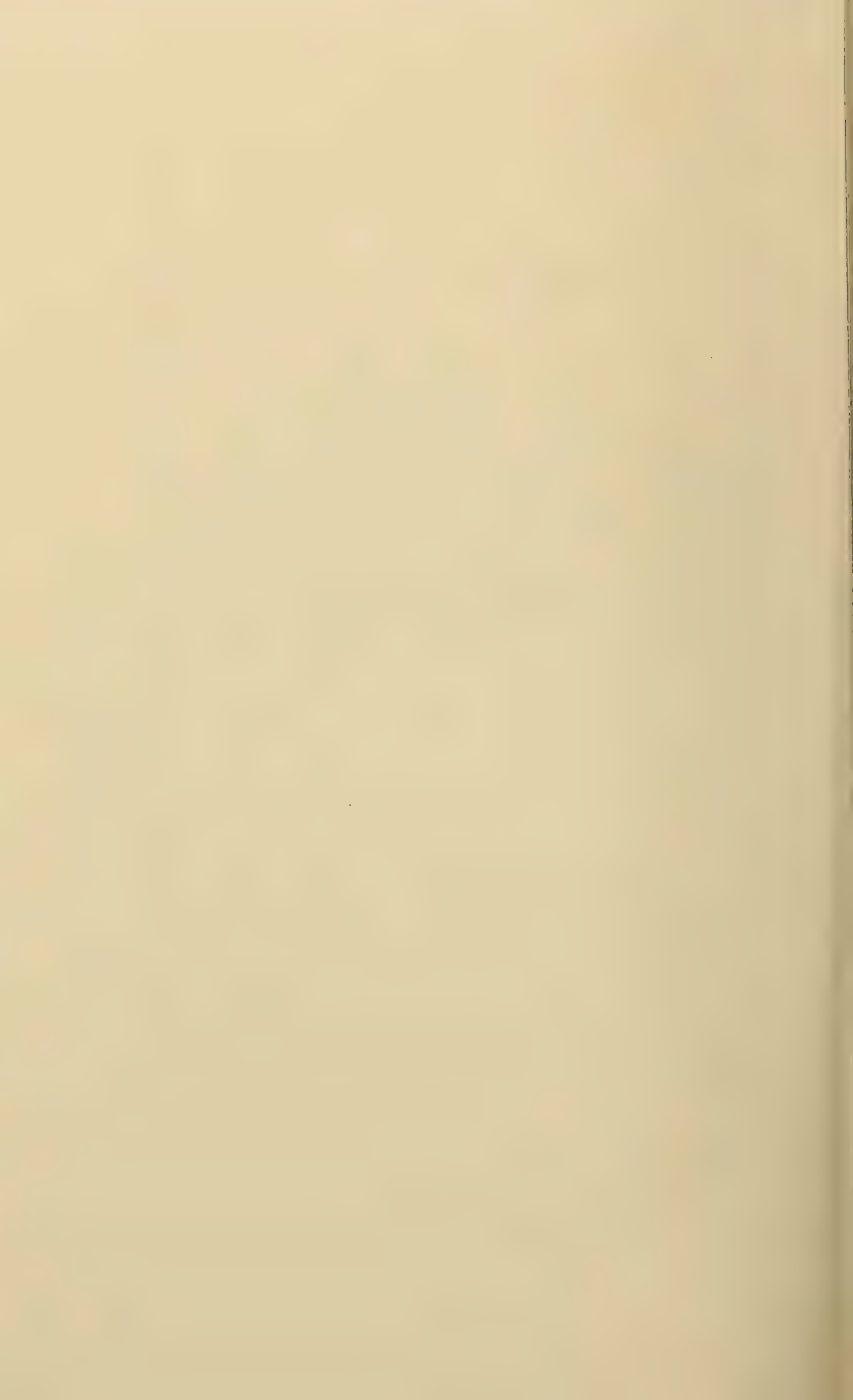
The information as to conveyance is of importance, and it is difficult to believe that so great a change in methods of travelling has come over the scene in so short a space of time. We find carefully noted a list of errand men and women, some going on foot and others with carts to the neighbouring villages, and amongst them one who remains to the present day—almost the last link between the old times and the present—Maits, the errand-man to Bramley, going daily from the Star. Beside this list there is a larger one of carriers having vans, eighteen of whom went from the Star, which was clearly then, as now, the local rendezvous for country carriers. Several started from a place described as ‘Neate’s, Alex Row,’ and we are uncertain what street is in this way alluded to.

We then find a table showing the movements of the nineteen coaches that passed through the town—the Union, Times, Accommodation, Diligent, Royal Mail, Rocket, Independent, Regulator, Tantivy, Royal Blue, Night Rocket, Star, Brunswick, and Red Rover, passing through Guildford between Southampton, Portsmouth, and London; the Duke of Richmond and Independent, passing between London and Chichester; the Royal



THE STAGE-COACH OFFICE IN NORTH STREET, 1780.

From a water colour drawing.



Sussex, from Littlehampton to London ; the Sovereign, from Brighton to Windsor ; and the Hero, from Brighton to Oxford.

Then we get the goods-waggons to London—Turner's, Shelley's, Mason's, Balchin's, and Southon's—taking goods and passengers, leaving Guildford between two and three in the afternoon, reaching London about six the next morning, and pulling up in the Old Bailey, Newgate Street, or the Borough. Finally, there was conveyance by water, the names of several barge-owners being given : Messrs. Wilkins, Messrs. Russell, Messrs. Seward, Messrs. Spencer, Jupp, and Co., and Mr. W. Mills ; and in this way our ancestors travelled. That they were not quite satisfied, however, appears from the remark that a meeting was held May 21st, 1836, in the Council Chamber, J. Smallpeice, Esq., in the chair, to consider the expediency of a railroad, to consider Stephenson's method, and to form a committee to make inquiries and report further.

The meetings of the Guardians and overseers were held at Archbishop Abbot's Hospital, and in looking down the list the names of Mr. Stedman, Mr. Butler and Mr. Sells as Medical Officers are interesting as reminders of the hereditary character of the medical profession in our local families.

As an evidence of the immense progress in Church matters and ritual which has been made during the past fifty years, we have but to read the following note, which appears at the foot of the list of Sunday lessons for the year 1837 : 'The Holy Sacrament will for the future be monthly alternately at St. Mary's and the Holy Trinity, also at St. Nicholas and Stoke on the first Sunday in the month alternately.'

The regulations as to the market occupy a page, and they are very stringent and precise. The rule as to

a penalty of 10s. for hawking any edible commodities at any dwelling or shop on a market day before 12 o'clock appears to have been strictly enforced, and a similar penalty was levied for pitching or standing any booth or stall in any of the lanes or streets within the town liberty. We commend these rules to our Corporation.

Marked prominence is given to the dates upon which the local and neighbouring fairs were held, and it is easy to see how important these county fixtures were in their day. So much trading was then deferred to Fair Day, and so high a value was attached to an attendance at these fairs.

Near the end of the almanack we find abstracts of some important Acts of Parliament that had lately been passed—the Act for the Sale and Assize of Bread, July 28th, 1836, with important clauses against adulteration, Sunday trading and the like; the Tithe Commutation Act of August 13th, 1836, with its great attendant changes in the method of paying tithes; the Act for Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, August 17th, 1836, far-reaching and most important in its character and results; the Parochial Assessment Act and the Stamp Act.

The outside wrapper tells us that Messrs. Russell not only sold books, but plate and jewellery, cutlery and optical instruments, fishing-tackle and brushes and combs, and, to judge by the three pages of advertisements, did a thriving trade in patent medicines.

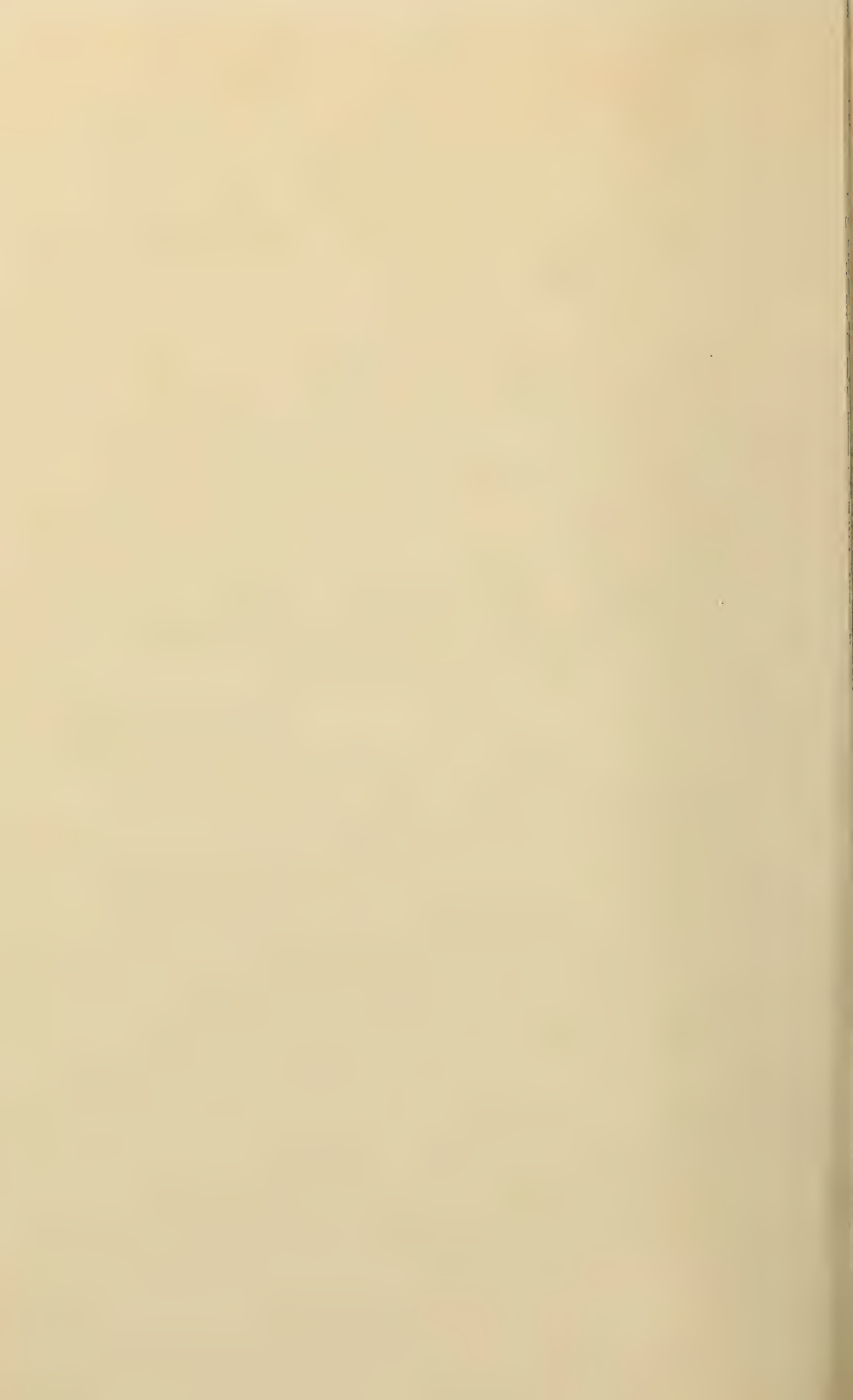
Having started on a review of the past it may be interesting to refer to a few other changes in the town.

The old Mail Office, the original Post Office of the town, was at the top of Swan Lane, in premises now occupied by Messrs. Salisbury, and after those premises were altered into shops it migrated to other sites in High Street before it settled down in North Street.

In this connection the record of the first telegram sent



THE POST OFFICE
CORNER OF SWAN LANE, 1840.
From a water colour by Prosser.



The Electric and International Telegraph Company.

(INCORPORATED 1846.)

Central Station, Founder's Court, Lothbury,
London.



For Station.
Per 16 185

£ 1 : 6 RECEIVED

for Message No. /

according to the Company's published Tariff.

RECEIPT FOR THE FIRST TELEGRAM SENT FROM GUILDFORD

from Guildford (November 16th, 1859), now in the

By Desire, and under the Patronage
OF THE WORSHIPFUL
**MASTER, OFFICERS,
AND BRETHREN**
OF THE
Royal Alfred Lodge
OF
Freemasons.

MISS MACREADY
Sister of the great Tragedian
MR. MACREADY.

Will perform on this occasion, being the last Night but Three of her Engagement.

THEATRE GUILDFORD.
On FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 7th, 1843,

Will be presented SHAKESPEARE'S very highly popular Play of

LOVE;

OR, THE SLAVE OF CORINTHIA.

Duke of Corinthia	Mr. FULLER	Count Urie	Mr. CHAPLIN
Sir Rogers of Larch	Mr. C. SMYTHSON	Sir Corrad of Hohenfels	Mr. THOMAS
Huang (a Serf)	Mr. S. BUCKINGHAM	Prince	Mr. BURCHELL
The Emperor	Mrs. BARNETT	Falconer	Mr. LLOYD
	Christina	Cataphile (an Enfranchised Serf)	Miss ELLEN CHAPLIN
		Man LIDIA	

Countess of Eppenstein Miss Macready
Bertha, the Countess's maid Mrs. THOMAS

A COMIC SONG BY MR. G. SMYTHSON.
THE DANCE, from "Cherry and Fair Star,"
BY MISS THOMASIN AND MISS LIDIA.

After which, the famous new Comic Dramatic Piece, called

Kill or Cure.

John Ostler	Mr. Drown	Mr. BARNETT	Mr. Middleton	Mr. THOMAS	Mr. WEST
Betty	Mr. G. SMYTHSON	Anthony	Mr. LLOYD	Amateur	
		Miss ELLEN CHAPLIN	Mrs. Brown	Mrs. BARNETT	

A PAS DE DEUX
BY MISS THOMASIN AND MISS LIDIA.

The whole to conclude with a famous Farce, in One Act, called

STAGE MAD

OR, THE AFRICAN ROSCIUS.

Mr. Stobborn, an eminent Druggist, and attached to Theatricals	Mr. THOMAS
Charles Ferrarier, a young Merchant	Mr. BURCHELL
Mr. Frish, a Teacher of Dramatic Elocution	Mr. G. SMYTHSON
Mrs. Jervoise Thorne, the African Queen, Favourite to Mr. Stobborn	Mrs. THOMAS
Mr. Stobborn, named to Theatricals, and all things thereto appertaining	Miss ELLEN CHAPLIN
Julia Stobborn, her Daughter, preparing for the Stage	

Lower Boxes 2s. 6d. Second Price 1s. 6d.

Upper Boxes 2s. Second Price 1s.

PI 1s. Gallery 6d. (No Second Price in Pit or Gallery.)

Shows to be given at Seven, Performance to commence at Half-past. Second Price at a Quarter to Nine o'Clock.
TICKETS may be had of Mr. BARNETT, at Mr. Wadde's, 34, High Street; and at RUSSELL'S LIBRARY, where Places for the Boxes may be taken.

(RUSSELLS, PRINTERS, GUILDFORD)

OLD THEATRE BILL

author's possession, may be of some interest.

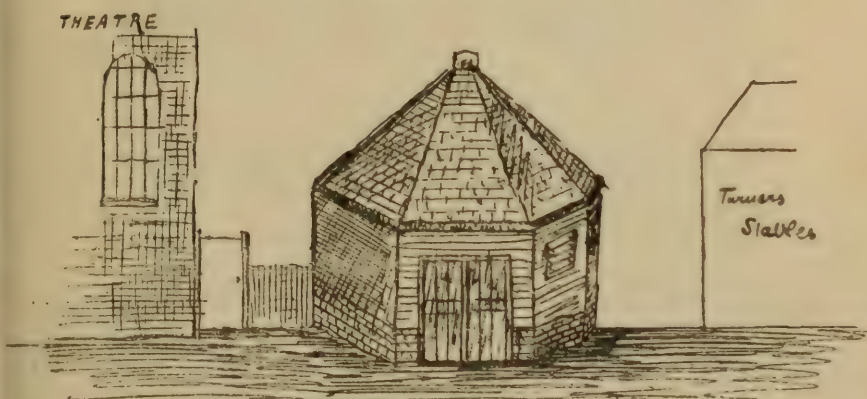
Amongst other local curiosities in the author's collection is the great leathern collar for the bull baiting which was at one time so favourite an amusement in the place. The chain used for the bear is also still in existence, and, considering the number of references to the baiting of bears, it may be curious to surmise where the bears came from and how and by whom they were brought to England.

The Theatre in Market Street will be remembered by many old townsmen, and in it some of the greatest actors have

appeared from time to time. Mrs. Jordan, Miss Foote, Master Betty, Jack Banister, Dowton, Edmund Kean, Mrs. Orger, Mrs. Nesbit, Meadows and Yates may be mentioned as some of them, and one of the old Theatre bills has the famous name of Macready upon it.

Close to it stood the Cock Pit which disappeared in 1840. It was part of the great inn of the town, the famous Red Lion, where Samuel Pepys stayed so often, and where, in 1662, he had the 'best asparagus he had ever eaten in his life.'

This great inn extended almost the whole length of Market Street and was a very important posting house. During the races it boasted that 400 horses could be stabled within its precincts.



"The Cock Pit" Market Street Guildford next to the Theatre

Taken down August 26. 1840

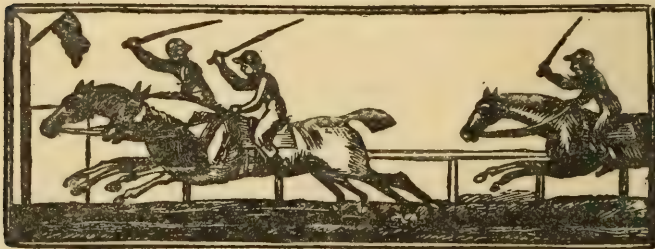
Drawn & sketched by the late Miss Dorrill

The other important inn was the White Hart, mentioned in Guildford records as early as 1550. At that time it was owned by members of a local family (connected with the family of the author of this book) known as the Derricke-Gilbertsons and whose name between

1550 and 1680 appears more than 70 times in the register of Holy Trinity Parish. This family appears now to be extinct, but there are representatives still in Guildford of many other old families who have been connected with the town for 400 years, and whose names occur in the town books and the parish registers year after year.

The Race Course can still be marked out on Merrow

GUILDFORD RACES.



A CORRECT CARD

JULY 12th, 1866,

FOR THE MEMBER'S PLATE.

The following Horses are entered—

1st THE WORPLESDON, *purple body, orange sleeves and cap*. This horse is well known, has been on the turf these nine years, and is at the present time in excellent condition, and eager for the race; he is quite capable of carrying any weight Her Majesty may be pleased to put on him.

2nd THE UPLANDS CHIEF, freely entered, but soon bolted; he is a dark, and by no means a good tempered horse, and is much inclined to kick, he has already run one race, and was thrown; he is now thought to be badly treated by his late backers, and will be turned out on the Downs till next season.

3rd THE OLD SEALE HORSE, *blue body and black cap*, who has run twice before, but was thrown by Barclay and Percival, is now again under training of the men about town; he will be well jockeyed, no doubt, by his pretended friends, but can't win.

Latest Betting on the Course—5 to 1 on Worpleston.

From the Swan, 1718,

William Gibson, *at the Corner House in
Stoke-Lane, next to the Ram in Guilford,
Surrey,*

Selleth all Sorts of Bibles, Testaments, Common-Prayers, Psalters, Primmers, Horn-Books, Arithmetick-Books, *Latin* Books, Spelling-Books, *Sol fa*-Books, School-Books, Divinity, Husbandry, Physick, Navigation, Cookery, Poetry, Farriering, History, Ballads, Shop-Books, and Pocket-Books, and all other Sorts of Books. If any Gentleman or others want a Book that he has not, he will procure it them as Cheap as at *London*.

Likewise Paper, Pens, Ink, Ink-Powder, Slates, Slate-Books, Spectacles, Thimbles, Combs of all Sorts, Almanacks, Tobacco-Boxes, Tobacco-Tongs, Looking-Glasses, Buckles, Buttons, Knives, Scissars, Ink-Horns, Needles, Pins, Sealing-Wax, Wafers, *Jews*-Harps, Maps, Pictures, Gartering, Laces, Filleting, Tape, and Binding.

Any Chapman or others may be furnish'd with all those Sorts above-nam'd, Wholesale or Retail, and several other Sorts, good Pennyworths.

He likewise selleth all Sorts of Linnen-Cloth, Coarse and Fine; Silk for Hoods and Scarfs, Muslin, Lace, Handkerchiefs, Callico, Neckcloths, Stockings for Men, Women, and Children, and Linnen ready made. He buyeth old Silver and Silver-Lace. Where you may have old Books new bound at reasonable Rates.

Note, He keeps a Standing every Market-Day at the Sign of the *Red-Lyon*.

Downs, but the races are no longer held. One of the latest cards, that issued in 1866, is presented on page 216.

The old Coach Office was in North Street and has long since vanished, as also the original Poor House, which was almost facing it, close to where a portion of Abbot's School now stands.

Of the trade of the town a curious handbill of 1718, issued by a man at the Ram Corner, gives us a vivid picture. The variety of his stock is sufficiently entertaining.

A well-known trader was one Matthew Wise, who lived next the Star in Quarry Street, and whose gingerbread was noted all over the county. His quaint trade card appears below.



MATTHEW WISE,

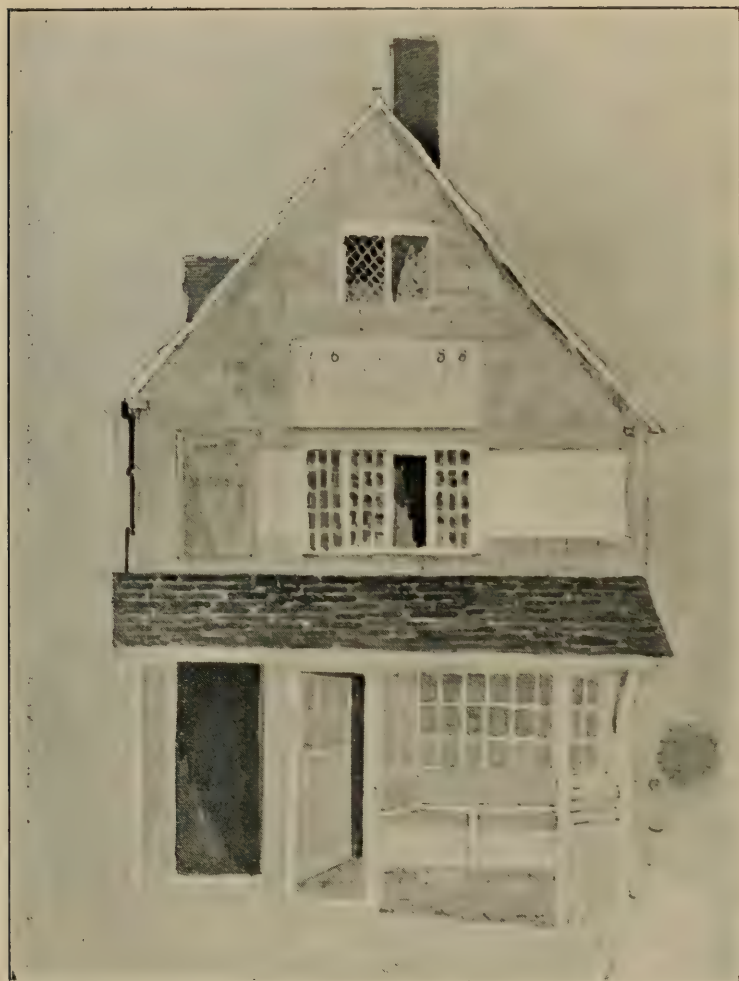
BAKER,

BEGS Leave to acquaint the Public, that he continues to sell at his Original Shop, near the Star-Corner, GUILDFORD, *Surrey*, all sorts of Gingerbread, Biscuits, Toys, Confectionary, Oranges, Lemons, Nuts, &c. and that he will punctually execute all Orders, on Terms equal, if not cheaper than the Trade in *London*.

Guildford: Printed by J. Russell.

TRADE CARD OF THE NOTED GINGERBREAD BAKER

One of the illustrations depicts the beautiful house erected by Mr. Child, afterwards inhabited by Mr. Martyr, and now occupied by Mr. Alfred Bull. Here



THE JOLLY BUTCHER INN, BLACK HORSE LANE
(NOW CHAPEL STREET), 1839.

From a water colour drawing.

the iron-work to the windows, the fine elaborate ceilings, the beautiful windows and the quaint old garden house remain to prove what a fine merchant's house this was, and how stately were many of the domestic buildings of the town.

The Jolly Butcher Inn is a typical old dwelling, and the ancient view of the High Street, in the days when signs appeared outside every house, illustrates the charm that the High Street must have possessed in 'the olden time.'

The old engravings tell us of the appearance of the place and of its chief buildings, and the Ground Plan traces for us the borough of 1739, but all that speaks of the past is fast fading away and the last fifty years have made sad changes in the beauty of the quaint old town.

Guildford is increasing in size and importance day by day, but certainly not in beauty, and it behoves those who are interested in its early history and love its ancient buildings and possessions to cherish all that remains, or the charm of the fascinating old place will soon pass altogether away.

CHAPTER XV

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL

IN addition to the house of the Dominican Friars, and to the establishment which it is believed was in the hands of the Carmelites in the High Street, there was a third monastic house in Guildford, which belonged to the Crutched or Crossed Friars, a branch house of the Trinitarian Order.

These Crutched Friars are believed to have taken their origin in the Low Countries, although some authors state that they were instituted by Gerard, Prior of Santa Maria di Morella at Bologna. They were protected by Pope Alexander III. in 1169, and received from him their rule. They came to England for the first time in 1244, appearing before the Bishop of Rochester, and asking for leave to settle in this country. Their first important establishment was at Reigate, founded in 1245, and their second in London in 1249, and the name of this house has given the name of Crutched Friars to a street in the City of London. They had a house at Oxford, and about seven other houses in the country.

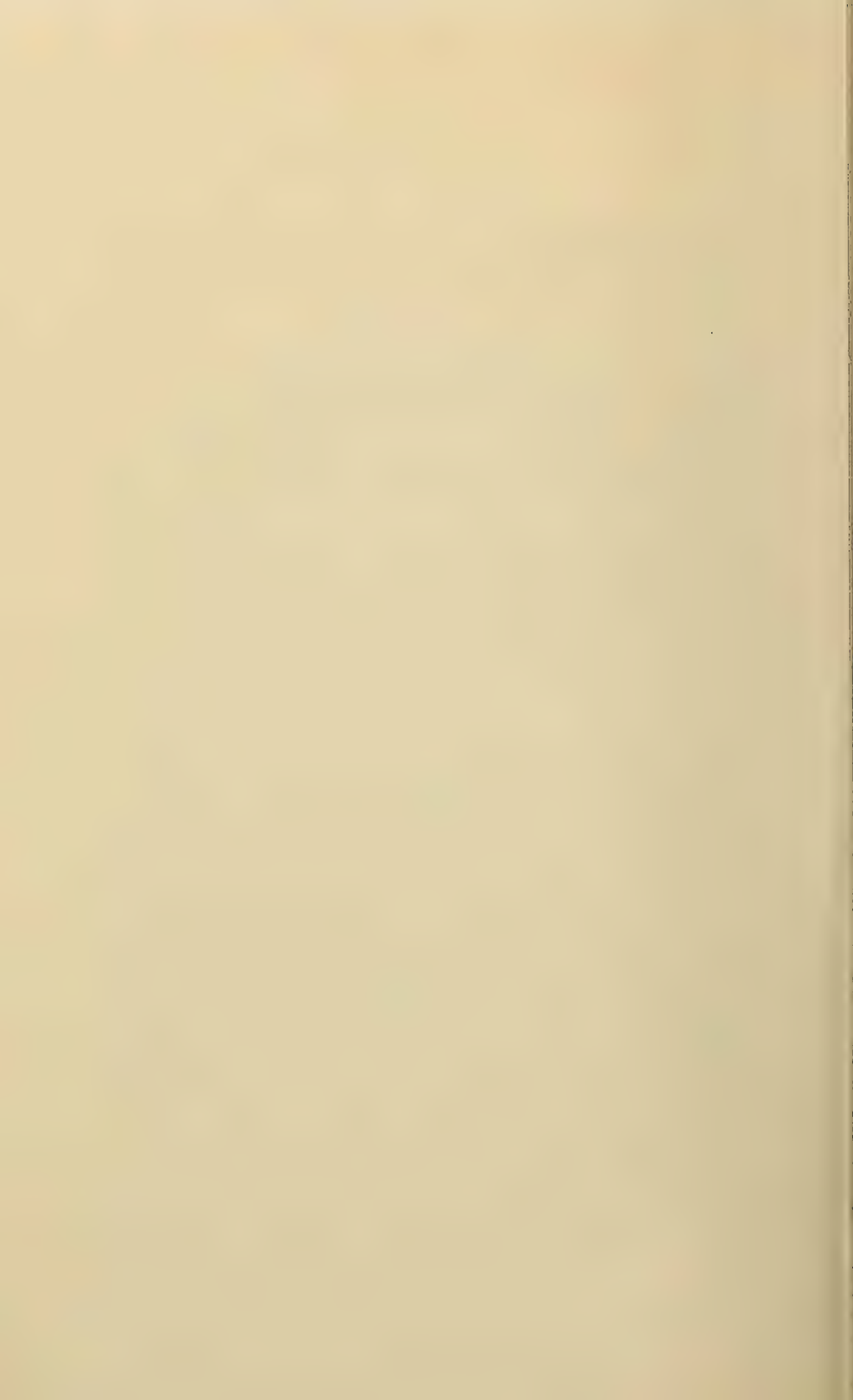
Their residence at Guildford was a very small one, and it is probable that it only lasted for a short time, as hardly anything whatever can be told respecting their house. It was situated in the angle formed by the roads leading to Kingston and Epsom, and it was dedicated to St. Thomas. The name of the house appears in the list of monastic establishments destroyed at the Reformation, and their Friary at that time was converted into a hospital for cripples. The Master of the hospital had



MR. MARTYR'S HOUSE,

NOW 25 HIGH STREET.

From a water colour drawing by Prosser, 1789.



the title of Prior, and this title appears to have continued down to the early part of the eighteenth century, as there are records in connection with the Manor of Stoke, and at a later time in connection with the Poyle Charity, of payments of a quit rent of sixpence from the Prior of St. Thomas's Hospital to the Lord of the Manor of Stoke.

Presentations to the hospital seem to have been vested alternately in the Mayor of the town of Guildford and the administrative body of the county, acting through Quarter Sessions, but the last presentation by the county was made on July 12th, 1698. Since that time, the right of presentation has been vested in the magistrates of Guildford.

It seems probable that the administration of Norbrige's Chantry, already alluded to in connection with Holy Trinity Church, was vested in the Order of the Crutched Friars. It is certain that at the Hospital of St. Thomas resided the chantry priests for the Lady Chapel in that church, and it was in connection with this Chapel that Henry and Alice Norbrige founded the chantry.

In the early part of the seventeenth century, the property came into the possession of the Poyle Charity, having been purchased from the money bequeathed to Guildford by Henry Smith, an alderman of London, representing the ward of Farringdon Without. The charity acquired its name from the Manor of Poyle which it purchased, and at that time the ancient hospital had been converted into a manor house, where the courts of the Manor of Poyle were regularly held. A part of the old chapel, however, still remained in existence, and, previous to its destruction, some sketches of it were made by John Russell, R.A. In the early part of the nineteenth century, these ruins were, however, removed, and a house

built upon the site, which was first occupied by a Mr. Finnimore. This house was enlarged in about 1850, and, during the occupancy of the living of Holy Trinity by the Rev. A. S. Valpy, it was used as his residence.



EXTERIOR OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. THOMAS,

SHOWING ALSO THE MAYPOLE, MARCH 15, 1791.

From a water colour drawing by J. Russell, R.A.

CHAPTER XVI

THE GUILDFORD SWORD

THERE are very few towns in England which possess the privilege of having a sword carried before the Mayor. During the fourteenth century only seven cities and towns received it. Lincoln, York, and Chester received their swords as gifts from the King; Newcastle acquired its privilege by special charter in 1391. London, the first city to which the privilege was granted, has held a sword almost from time immemorial, whilst as to the use at Coventry and Bristol no evidence is forthcoming, although the Bristol sword is believed to have been in use since 1373.

During the fifteenth century the privilege was given by charter to Norwich, Kingston-on-Hull, and Gloucester, and swords were given to Exeter, Leicester, and Hereford. Henry VII. gave a sword to Chester in 1506, Henry VIII. appointed a swordbearer for Carmarthen in 1546, and Queen Elizabeth gave the privilege to Thetford in 1573. The other places which are empowered to use a sword of state are Canterbury, Worcester, Kendal, Carlisle, Shrewsbury, Wigan, Yarmouth, Liverpool, and Salisbury, while swords have been presented by private individuals to Appleby, Hertford, Lichfield, and Bury St. Edmunds.

There seems to be every probability that Guildford was one of the towns having a similar privilege, but it is not at all clear how the privilege was acquired. It possibly came by one of the charters, but the earliest charters of the town are not in existence, having been lost in the Wat Tyler Insurrection. With the exception

of one of them, however—that of Richard II.—they are set forth and recited in the charter of Henry VII., 1489, but this charter does not refer to a sword.

Probably the privilege was acquired from James II., when the King granted to the Mayor and Aldermen the right of using the royal colour, scarlet, for their gowns. On more than one occasion this right, which was considered a sovereign privilege, seldom granted, carried with it the further unexpressed right to bear a sword before the Mayor. In almost every instance in England where the royal colour was allowed in the gowns, the royal privilege of a state sword was at once adopted, and the two rights seem to have been always considered together.

‘The obscurity,’ Mr. Hope tells us in his work on Corporation plate, ‘that surrounds the extension of the privilege of a sword of state to a city or town is not lightened by an examination of the royal charters granting it.’ In many of these charters the sword is only just alluded to, as though its use were perfectly well known. At present the author has only been able to find five references to the use of a state sword amongst the Guildford records.

One is a payment in 1687, the year after James II. granted the charter, ‘to Mr. Sword-bearer of 4s. 2d.’ Another occurs in the next year when the ‘Maier and Mr. Sword-bearer with the Serjeant-at-Mace’ take part in a ceremonial visit to Holy Trinity Church. Another comes three years later, and merely states, ‘Repairs to ye Great Sword, 7s. 3d.’ A fourth is a reference to the election of a sword-bearer, and the fifth is a reference to the ‘mummers’ in the town, in which it is stated there was elected a mock mayor, with his sword-bearer and mace-bearer.

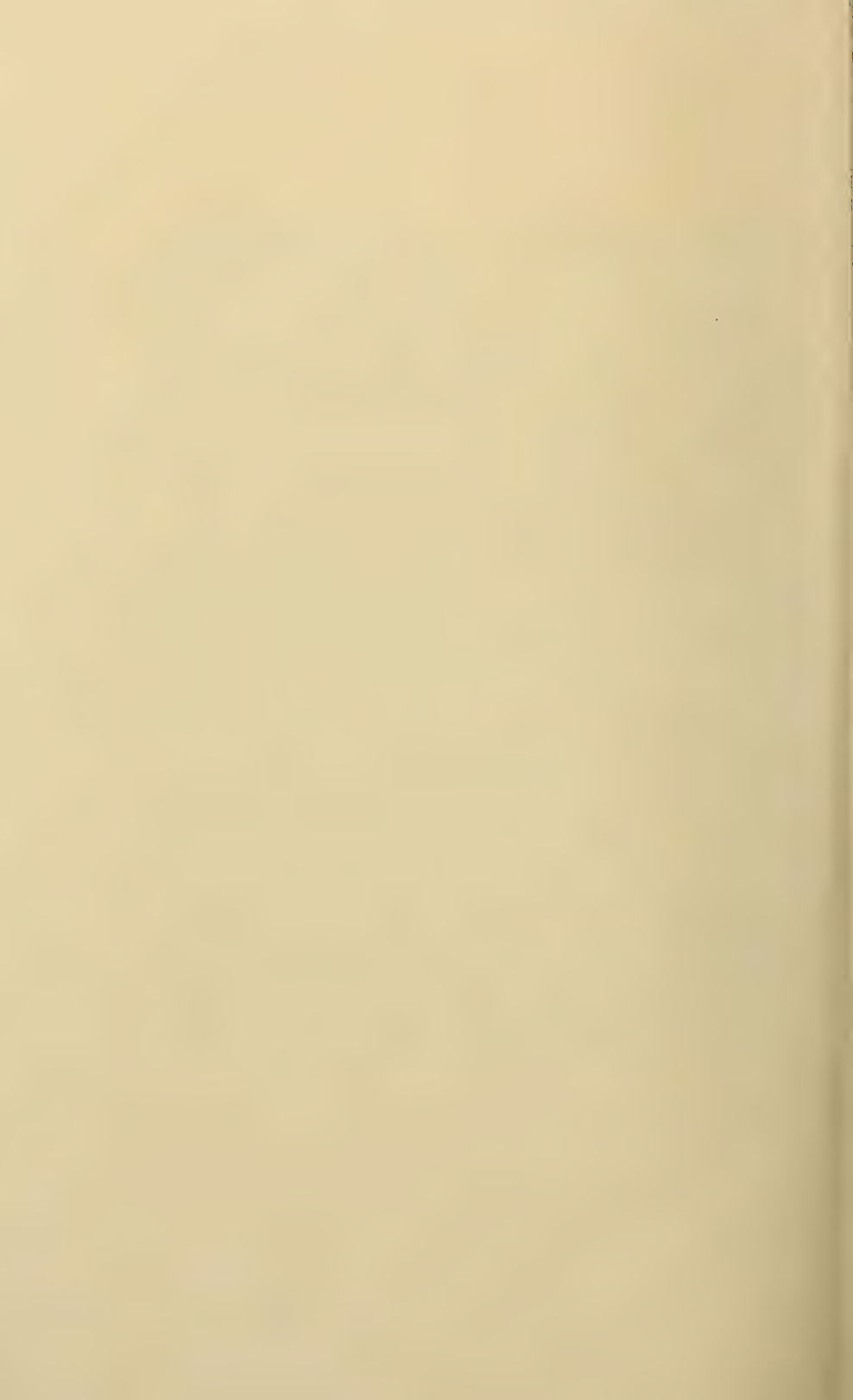
There is also an entry in the town Black Book, under date 28th of Henry VII., as to the election of a sword-



INTERIOR OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. THOMAS

(MARCH 15, 1791).

From a water colour drawing by J. Russell, R.A.



bearer, and another one in the same year, speaking of the fine to be levied on a young man refusing to be a sword-bearer. It is quite possible that these two early entries refer to the armed men which the town had to supply, rather than to any ornamental officer in attendance on the Bailiff or Mayor, but the other three entries would certainly appear to relate to the bearing of a sword before the Mayor.

This question would not have had any very special interest but for the existence in the town for many years of an old processional sword, "which" appears to the author to have at one time belonged to the Corporation, and to have been used as a state sword borne before the Mayor.

This sword now belongs to the Guildford Institute, and was for some years suspended in the library. It was given to the old Institute by John Ryde Cooke, who was Mayor in 1849-50 and 1854-55, and the gift was recorded in the minute-book of the Institute as that of 'The Old Sword, given to the Museum.'

The Institute was founded in 1834, and Mr. John Cooke, its first librarian, was one of the five men who founded it. From its earliest days it appears to have collected things belonging to the town, but when Mr. Drummond became its president in 1835 a museum was at once started and a room in Angel Yard fitted up as its permanent home. Mr. Drummond enriched this museum with objects of natural history and geology; Mr. John Nealds also contributed to it, and several of the members made gifts.

'The Old Sword' was one of the earliest. How it got into Mr. Cooke's possession cannot now be known, but he appears to have considered it worthy of the acceptance of the Institution and of a place in its museum.

Mr. Cooke first entered the Council in 1847, becoming Mayor two years afterwards, but it seems probable that

the sword had been disused for a very long time previously.

It is hardly likely that Mr. Cooke would have purchased or have acquired an enormous processional sword to give to the Institute museum, or that such a sword should have been labelled, as this one was, when it was in the old museum of the Institute, 'The Old Sword,' whereas it is exceedingly likely that, if the carrying of the sword had been disused for some years, he might think that this disused weapon would be of interest to the newly-founded Institute. Why, if it was Corporation property, he gave it away, is not clear : but there was much carelessness at that time with regard to things of interest, such as the Corporation records and original copper-plates of engravings.

A curious piece of indirect evidence came to light as to Mr. Cooke's action.

He was, it appears, the Mayor of the town who was present at the first important gathering of provincial Mayors after the framing of the Municipal Corporations Act. The gathering took place at York, and before each Mayor was carried a banner with the arms of his town and this banner was suspended over his seat at the luncheon. Mr. Cooke provided at his own cost the silken banner, but so little interest did he take in it as a piece of municipal insignia that on his return from York he did not place it in the Town Hall or even report his presence at York to his Council.

Some years afterwards he gave this banner to his friend John Nealds, a local antiquary, who, recognising its importance to the Corporation, presented it to the town, and in the Council Chamber it now hangs.

It seems to be very probable that his conduct with regard to the Town Sword was on a par with that as to the banner. He acted in accordance with the spirit of

the age in which he lived, when apparently little value was set upon archæological objects not possessing intrinsic value. He recognised both banner and sword as curiosities, gave one to an old friend who loved such things, and the other, as it was big, cumbersome and heavy, to a local museum, but it never occurred to him to place either of them in the custody of the Corporation to which each really belonged, inasmuch as he did not consider (perhaps rightly) that his Council would trouble to possess or care for them.

It may be counted to his credit that he gave the Sword to a local museum rather than to a private individual who might have taken it out of the town, but we are of opinion that the cumbersome size of this huge weapon had somewhat to do with its possession by the museum.

In the present year the Sword attracted some attention and the Committee of the Institute to whom it belongs obtained various opinions about it, submitting it first to some noted sword makers and then, at the author's suggestion, to the Keeper of the King's Armoury (Guy Francis Laking, Esq, F.S.A.).

This well-known expert pronounced it to be 'a very fine example of its kind, probably German, and dating within the last quarter of the sixteenth century.' He drew attention to the fact that it had 'the additional interest of being in an untouched condition, having its original grip and leather on the recasso,' and he concluded as follows: 'it is really a treasure, and should be carefully preserved, and I may add that I have never seen a finer specimen.'

Attention has also been drawn to the fact that very many of the large *Zweihander*, or two-handled swords, such as this one is, were obtained and used as state swords long after they had gone out of fashion as fighting

weapons. Most of the works on arms and armour allude to this fact, Boutell especially using it as the reason why so few of these great swords are to be found in collections of armour and many belong to civic Corporations.

No less than six two-handled swords in the great Armoury at Madrid were once in use as state swords, and such imposing weapons were in great request all over Europe for ceremonial purposes.

The Guildford Sword, a two-handled sword of huge size and great weight, is five feet ten inches long, the blade measuring four feet three inches. The hilt is covered with dark green velvet, the quillons and guards, unusually large, are handsomely curved, and there is a crossguard just above the blade.

On either side a panel on the guard is beautifully damascened with silver, while, as Mr. Laking remarked, the original leather of the recasso is *in situ*.

The maker's mark appears to be three stars and an initial. The blade is in splendid condition and a superb piece of forging.

It seems probable that this sword was obtained by the Corporation as soon as the charter of James II. was received, and that for a while it was carried before the Mayor. It may, of course, have been in use long before that time as it belongs to the sixteenth century, or an old sword may have been purchased or given to the Corporation when required, but as to all that history at present is silent. A very careful search of town books might reveal further information respecting its use, but there are many instances on record of the adoption of such a use on the occasion of any special privilege being granted to the town by the King.

It is always understood that a sword, when carried, is borne with the point erect in the presence of everyone save the King and the heirs, and it is a sign of the

dignity and power of the chief magistrate. As a rule, it is borne sheathed, and there are signs that a leather sheath has been used on the Institute sword.

The right of bearing it includes the right to carry it into church before the Mayor, and at Chester and Coventry this right, challenged by the ecclesiastical authorities, was decided in favour of the Mayor and citizens. In one case only, that of Shrewsbury, there is an express stipulation in the charter that the sword is not to be borne erect in church.

The actual number of swords of state in England is only forty-six, and they are divided amongst thirty-one cities and towns. London and Bristol each possess four swords, Lincoln has three, and there are two at York, Hull, Newcastle, Exeter, Hereford, Gloucester and Worcester. The other towns which possess the right of a sword-bearer have each of them only one sword.

The privilege is an important one, and belongs to so few towns, that it would be well for it to be revived in Guildford.

The Corporation of the town have come to the conclusion that the Institute Sword once formed part of its insignia of office, and have made application to the Institute for its recovery. It is much to be hoped that the Institute will see its way to accede to this very reasonable request.

CHAPTER XVII

THE 'DAUGHTER' TOWN OF 'GUILFORD' IN THE UNITED STATES

FAR back in early times, at as remote a period as 1256, Guildford had a daughter-town in the affiliation to her of the Saxon town of Kingston-upon-Thames. The charters at Kingston, granted to the citizens by the King at the request of the Gild-Merchant, were framed on the lines of the Guildford charters, and conferred similar privileges; and, as Guildford triennially in those days acknowledged Winchester in its corporate capacity as her mother-town, so Kingston in her turn, but *annually*, paid similar fealty and acknowledgment to Guildford.

History repeated itself, and even now Guildford has a daughter-town named after her, copying her life and habits, rejoicing in her connection with the mother-country and the mother-town, and in the New England over the seas Guilford, Conn., sustains the old traditions, and in the land of freedom reaches out one hand of fellowship to the old town and country, and with the other points onward to greater progress and advancement in all that civilises and improves the English-speaking nation.

Of this town a few words may be of interest to all Guildfordians. In 1639 a party of some forty traders, with their families, left England for America. They tell us that they were 'Congregationalists and Puritans, driven from their native country because of their religion, and that they wished to enjoy their sentiments unmolested by those who had none in common with them, and

who endeavoured to destroy the religious and political bonds by which they had bound their new society and government together.'

At their head was Henry Whitfield, B.D., who was styled 'Preacher of God's Word at Ockley in Surrey,' and who under this title was the author of a book called 'Some Helpes to stirre up to Christian Duties,' sold by John Bartlett at the Gilt Cup in Cheapside, 1634. It is a curious fact that, of the remaining thirty-nine names of the founders of Guilford, but three—Richard Bristow, Thomas Naish, and Thomas Norton—can be found in our local records of that date. These early emigrants settled down at a place then called by the Indians Menunkatuk, and they tell us in their records that 'they called the place Guilford in remembrance of Guildford, a borough town, the capital of Surrey, where many of them had lived.'

In face of the facts of Whitfield having come from Surrey, and of the names of three Guildford men appearing in this list, we do not like to disturb so interesting a tradition, but we confess to having some doubts on that score. The land they selected was, they tell us, 'low, flat, and moist,' and one would think such land would hardly remind them of Surrey.

There is a place in Sussex now called Guilford, or East Guilford, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Rye, in the diocese of Chichester, containing now only 157 persons, and the land about there is 'low, flat, and moist.' We will gladly retain the interesting link between us and the States, but are inclined to wonder whether the Sussex village was not in the minds of some of the emigrants rather than the Surrey town.

Some day an investigation in Sussex may assist us to identify any local names with those above mentioned, but meantime there is nothing to disprove the close connec-

tion between our own town and Guilford, Conn., inasmuch as many men have lived here whose names have been lost sight of, and who took no part in town affairs, and we would gladly more closely prove the connection that in Connecticut is undoubtedly taken for granted.

On September 29th, 1639, Henry Whitfield, Robert Kitchell, William Leete, William Chittendon, John Bishop, and John Caffinge, on behalf of themselves and others, bought the land of the sachem-squaw by deed. The price was 12 coats, 12 fathoms of wampum, 12 glasses, 12 pairs of shoes, 12 hatchets, 12 pairs of stockings, 12 hoes, 4 kettles, 12 knives, 12 hats, 12 porringers, 12 spoons, and 2 English coats. The deed of purchase is still carefully preserved. Other land round about was purchased upon similar terms from time to time of the Indians.

In the town still remains a house that is known to Americans as the oldest house in the United States, with the exception of some Spanish ones in Florida and Mexico. This stone house was built in 1639, and is therefore 265 years old. It was erected both for the accommodation of Mr. Whitfield's family and as a fortification against the Indians. When first erected there seems to have been a hesitancy on the part of the settlers whether, after all, they should not call their town Milford (after the Surrey village close to Guildford), but finally they fixed on the latter name, according to the entry in their town records given above.

The old house was kept in its original form until 1868, when it was necessary for it to undergo such renovation as changed to a great extent its appearance and internal arrangement. The north wall and large stone chimney have not, however, been altered at all. The house consists of two storeys and an attic, and stands on rising ground overlooking the plain south of the town. The

walls are between three and four feet thick, plastered inside and out, narrow fissures being left in them through which muskets could be pointed at the redskins. The rooms are small and dark, owing to the deeply-recessed and small windows, and the ceilings are scarcely seven feet high. In the attic there are two recesses, evidently intended as places of concealment, and at the south-west corner of the second floor there is a singular embrasure commanding the approach, and evidently made for purposes of defence.

The stone was brought by the Indians on hand-barrows across the swamp, and an ancient causeway over the boggy land is shown as the path employed for this purpose. Floors, beams, doors, and window-sashes were of oak, the window-recesses had broad seats, the panes of glass were diamond-shaped, and in many ways the old house must have reminded the settlers in its style of the timbered houses of Surrey in their day. The first Guilford wedding was celebrated in the house, the wedding-table being garnished, we are told, with the substantial luxuries of pork and pease-pudding.

The inhabitants of the town of Guilford have recently acquired the house, and they are now having it altered into a town museum, and are placing in it such treasures of their early history as they possess or can gather together.

That which the mother-town does not possess the daughter-town is now rapidly acquiring, and it seems to us that in that respect the mother has much to learn from the daughter.

There is a great big central room in the 'Old Stone House,' extending right up to the roof, and with a huge fireplace at one end. This room, which had been cut up into smaller ones and altered in height by means of a modern floor of rough deal, put in half way

up, is now being restored to what it was when the house was first erected, and the great oak beams of its roof are being revealed, and the fireplace renewed with its chimney corner, and all its original fittings, so far as they can be obtained or reproduced. Other rooms round it are being arranged, so that they, with it, may contain the treasures of the museum, and exhibit them to the fullest advantage. Over 300 gifts and loans have already been housed in the Old House, and the collection is a most instructive and interesting one. The property is vested in trustees, and the State has allotted an annual sum for its maintenance, so that it may become in process of time a State historical museum to embody the history of the commonwealth.

A generation ago there was an important flax industry in the place, as in the mother-town in earlier days there was a cloth industry, and the trustees are gathering together appliances and samples in order to illustrate this old world industry.

They have had given them, various ancient chairs, spinning wheels, clocks, fire implements, children's toys, and other articles of curious and domestic interest, which have belonged to the earliest settlers, or have been connected with the history of the place, and gradually they will be able to build up a very important collection of curiosities and attractive exhibits, that will serve to remind the inhabitants of this go-ahead town of the days that are past, and the troubles connected with the first settlement of the place.

It seems strange that the work which Guilford is doing has never been done in Guildford, and that, although in the Surrey town there is an archæological Museum, it is in no sense a Town Museum, and it illustrates very little of the past life of the place in which it is situate. There are many Guildford

people who have never even entered the Museum in Castle Arch, and who know practically nothing of it, and, although there are innumerable treasures in the town connected with its past history which should be the property of the governing body of the place, and be exhibited in the local museum, there appears to be little or no interest either in their preservation or in their exhibition. It is not for us to suggest to the Corporation that they should take up another work demanding more expenses, and adding more costs to our already overburdened taxation, but it does seem strange and somewhat pathetic that, while New England is doing her best to 'conserve' the ancient house that remains as one of her most treasured possessions, and to exhibit in it all that appertains to her past history, the older town from which she sprang should think so little of its ancient life. It possesses a wealth of fine old houses, a beautiful High Street, unequalled in the country, and many things belonging to its past history, and it has never attempted to gather up all the memorials of the days that are past, or preserve them from destruction and exhibit them to the children who are to follow, and to whom they will have even greater interest than those who are nearer to the days they represent.

Are there not many relics of the old days in Guildford : relics of the riots, relics of the Stuart times, relics of the cloth industry, coins, tokens, books, playbills, election squibs, pictures, engravings, pottery, glass, etc., which exist in many houses and stand the risk of destruction by fire or loss, but are all of them of the deepest interest with reference to the history of the town ?

The daughter-town is making an appeal to some of the townsmen of Guildford, to ask them if they will help in forming the Museum in far distant Connecticut,

and very possibly to that remote place some of the things that belong to Guildford will find their way if the old town takes no interest in their preservation in England. Surely the moral of the lesson ought not to be thrown away upon Guildford. There ought to be found some one who will help to roll away the reproach from this ancient town, and who will learn the lesson so steadily taught us by our brothers in the States, and take steps ere it be too late to gather up and to cherish for future generations the things that appertain to our own local history, and which helped to make Guildford what it now is.

Old houses in the States are guarded with jealous care; no one is allowed to injure or spoil them. There are but few, and they are to be handed down intact. Their owners know that they hold them in trust for succeeding generations. Would that the same spirit could be found in England, and that a strong effort could be made in this fine old town to guard all its beauty, and all its charm, and keep with jealous anxiety every dwelling and every treasure belonging to the past history of the place. Every year is making such work more difficult. Every day is helping to spoil the old world beauty of Guildford. Are her inhabitants going to allow their cousins in the States to teach them how to reverence the past, or is the old neglect going on for ever?

It rests for Guildford to make its reply.

The inhabitants of Guilford, Conn., are naturally very interested in the history of the original founders of their town. They cherish every tradition with respect to them, and are keenly alive to all genealogical investigation respecting their own connection with the band of Pilgrim settlers.

The town was certainly settled by a very superior class

of young men gathered from the South of England. All were educated, and many were graduates at Oxford and Cambridge. Whitfield was an Oxford man, a barrister, who afterwards took Orders. He was a friend of Cotton, Hooker, Goodwin, Nye, and Davenport; was cited before the Court of Star Chamber and before Laud; eventually became a Congregationalist, and then left for New England. He was also a great friend of the Rev. John Wilson, at that time Rector of St. Nicholas, Guildford, and he wrote a preface for the work published by his friend in 1631, entitled 'Zacheus Converted,' strongly recommending the book. This quaint little duodecimo is now very rare and constitutes a very interesting link between Guildford in Surrey and Guilford in Connecticut. After settling his friends in Connecticut Whitfield returned to England in 1650 and is said to have died in this country ten years afterwards.

Samuel Hoadley, another of the settlers, bears a name of historical importance. He was the father of Benjamin Hoadley, who, coming back to England, was in 1710 Rector of Streatham, Surrey, and afterwards successively Bishop of Bangor, Salisbury, and Winchester. His brother John, who went from the States to Ireland, became Archbishop of Armagh.

John Higginson, another settler, was the successor of Whitfield in the pastorate, but upon his removal to Salem in 1660 he was succeeded by Joseph Eliot, who was the son of John Eliot, the illustrious Apostle to the Indians. His translation of the Bible into the Indian tongue was first published in 1663, and there is now, we are told, but one person living who can read or understand a single verse in any of the few perfect copies of this very scarce work preserved in the great American libraries.

Mr. J. Hammond Trumbull, of Hertford, late Secretary of State for Connecticut, is the person to whom we

refer, and he is not of the race for whom the translation was made. They have, alas, all long since passed away. 'Up Biblum God,' which means 'The Book of God,' is a portion of the title of Eliot's Bible. 'Wutappesiltuquassunuookwehtunkquoh' ('kneeling down to him') is a single word, while one of the shortest verses runs as follows: 'Nummelsuougash assekesukokish assneaneau zeezeu kesukod.' The edition was of 1,000 copies, but not more than fifteen are known to be preserved in the States.

We refer to the book at length because it was the first Bible of any language printed in America, and the son of its illustrious translator settled in Guilford in 1664, and his descendants live there still.

One more illustrious inhabitant of Guilford must be mentioned in FitzGreene Halleck, the poet. He was born at Guilford in 1790, and died there in 1867, and stands in a very high position in the rank of American poets, side by side with Bryant, Dana, Sprague, Longfellow and Willis. He was the first American poet to whom was awarded the honour of a bronze statue in a public place. His statue, of heroic size, occupies a prominent position in Central Park, New York, and upon the occasion of its unveiling, May 15th, 1877, by the venerable poet Bryant, eulogistic poems, specially composed for the occasion by Oliver Wendell Holmes and John Greenleaf Whittier, were read.

Desborough, another of the Guilford founders, afterwards returned to England, and became, under Cromwell, Lord Keeper of Scotland.

In 1675 there came to Connecticut some more Puritans from the County of Surrey, and amongst them one Edward Lee, who went direct to Guilford and bought land and settled down there. This man was, we believe, the issuer of two Guildford tokens.

The issuer was born in Guildford, but we have never been able to trace any important information respecting him beyond this fact, and that of his being a Non-conformist. His death nowhere appears in the parish registers, and we believe that he left the town for New England for religion's sake, and in 1675 became one of the early settlers in Guilford, Conn.

Of the town in the present day we cannot now say very much. Guilford has its wardens and its select men, answering to our own 'approved' men. It has its town bridge and town mills, its public schools, churches and chapels, its almshouses and poorhouse. It looks strangely familiar to see mention of the borough of Guilford in the town account, and to read of the borough treasurer and town auditors.

There are borough justices and even freemen, and the author has had the honour of invitation to be enrolled in the list of honorary freemen of Guilford. In July, 1874, the charter of the borough of Guilford was revised and amended by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut; and in the revised charter the Corporation is termed the Warden, Burgesses and Freemen of the borough of Guilford, and have perpetual succession.

This Corporation is one of the oldest and one of the smallest in the States. It was chartered in 1816 originally, and its supreme local authority is still the town meeting, or assembly of all the adult males forming the freemen. From this meeting is chosen the 'select,' or 'approved,' and we have therefore the most simple and primitive form of folk moot and witenagemot still existing in the United States.

On September 8th, 9th and 10th, 1889, the citizens celebrated the 250th anniversary of their ancient town. In the spelling of the name of the town the inhabitants have retained the older orthography, such as appears on

the trade tokens of Guildford in 1668. The town in Sussex, to which we have already referred, also continues the same old style of spelling.

In the minds of the people there is no doubt of the close connection between Surrey and Connecticut, and, if that is so, it may probably be traced to the influence of Whitfield and his memories of Surrey.

Guildford has, however, another and a separate claim upon the interest of New England. Dr. Cotton Mather, in his autobiographical experiences, states that his first and permanent religious impressions were derived from the preaching and teaching of 'one Wilson, the great Guildford preacher, at that time Rector of S. Nicholas, in Guildford, Surrey.'

This was the Rev. John Wilson, who was instituted to the living March 14th, 1570, died at the Rectory in October, 1630, and was buried in the church October 22nd, 1630. He was presented to the living by Lettice, Countess Dowager of Leicester, and Sir Christopher Blount, her husband, who jointly held the next presentation by demise from the Dean of Salisbury. The Dean and Chapter were for centuries patrons of the living.

Wilson attained considerable notoriety as a preacher, and, as from Cotton Mather New England received her first formulated theology, her earliest and most valued theological works and very much of her religious character, Guildford may claim to have been the original instrument for producing this result. New England was religiously nurtured by the parish of St. Nicholas, in Guildford, Surrey.

APPENDIX

DEEDS RELATING TO THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

- A. WILL OF ROBERT BECKINGHAM, FOUNDER, 3
NOVEMBER, 1509
- B. WILL OF ELIZABETH BECKINGHAM, HIS WIFE,
15 AUGUST, 1510
- C. ABSTRACT OF THE WILL OF THOMAS POLSTED,
EXECUTOR TO ROBERT BECKINGHAM, 12 MARCH,
1528-9
- D. CONVEYANCE EXECUTED BY THE EXECUTORS OF
ROBERT BECKINGHAM, ENDOWING THE GRAMMAR
SCHOOL WITH CERTAIN RENTALS AT BROMLEY
AND NEWINGTON, 4 MAY, 4 HENRY VIII
(1512)

THE WILL OF ROBERT BECKINGHAM

In the name of God Amen The iij^{de} day of Novembr the yere of o^r lord god MVIX And the first yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the viijth I Robert Bekingh^a m Citizen and groc' of london beyng hole of mynde And of good remembrance thanked be god make and ordeyn this my p'sent testame't and last will in this fo^rme folowing I beque'th and recomend my soule to almighty god my maker Jhu' crist to his moder o^r blissed lady seynt Mary and to all the holy co'pany of he'ven and my body to be buried in the church of seynt Oluff in Southwerke before the Roode next unto the the sepultur of Wesenham It' I beque'th to the high aulter in the same church in remembrance of my tithes necligently forgotten and w^t drawn ijs vjd It' I beque'th to the aulter of our lady and to the sustentacion of the bretherhed of o^r lady founded in the same church vjs viij^d It' I beque'th to the preest of o^r lady bretherhed xvjd to pray for my soule the space of xij moneths that is to Wite iij dayes in the weke Monday Wednysday and ffriday. It' I beque'th to the mayntenncce of the light of seynt John and seynt Anne in the same church xij^d It' I beque'th to the sustentac'on of the bretherhede of Alhalow'en and seynt Clement and to the mayntenncce of seynt Ursula masse in the same church evenly to be divided amonge them vjs viij^d It' I beque'th to Robert Taillo^r of Brayneford and to my moder his Wif twoo litell masers. It' I beque'th to my brother Ric' Bekingh'm one of my gownes furred w^t foxe a doublett a payre of hosen a shirte a capp and all othr thinge to his body complete a federbed w^t all thinge belonging to a bedde my Wodebuyse and xx^s in money. Itm I beque'th to John Blakney capper a feder-

bedd complete w^t all thinge belongyng to the same iij
 platers iij disshes iij sawcers A brasse pott a brasse panne
 a spitt and one of my cast gownes. It' I beque'th to the
 chartiehouse of london to have me in remembrance
 amonge them as their brother by a letter iij^s iiij^d It' I
 beque'th to thabbot & Convent of Thame to have me in
 remembrance amonge theym as A brother by A l're
 iij^s iiij^d It' I beque'th to the bieldyng of the Stepill of
 Brayneford xij^s iiij^d It' I beque'th to the blakefreeres of
 london to pray for my soule and to come and bryng my
 body to the church vj^s viij^d It' I beque'th to the brethern
 and sisters of Syon to have me in remembrance amonge
 them as a brother by A l're iij^s iiij^d It' I beque'th to the
 Nonnes of Burneh'm in Bukkshire to pray for my soule
 iij^s iiij^d It' I beque'th to Rauff se'vnt XL^s To Robert
 May XL^s and to Antony Totehill XL^s to be paid unto
 them at the comyng out of their t'mes of yeres soo that
 they be good sev'ntes to my Wif and to myn assignez
 And they that doeth the contrary Wol not be ruled by
 my'n ov'sears to have no thing of that that I have
 beque'thed unto them It' I beque'th to Elizabeth my
 Wif all the terme of yeres which I have now to come["] of
 and in all those tente and gardeyns which I have by
 Cove'nt seale thabbott and convent of Waverley w^t in
 the pisshe of seynt Margarete in Suthwerke aforsaid for
 terme of hir lif and after her decesse I beque'th the Rest
 of the said t'me of yeres of and in all said tente and gar-
 deyns to John Croster Citizen and groc' of london It' I
 beque'th to the same John the Custody of ij childern
 called John Wyly and Johane Wyly w^t all such londe
 and profitt as cometh by theym lying in ffarneh'm Ryall
 in Bukkyngh'mshire unto the tyme the heire of the land
 be of lafull age It' I beque'th to Johane the Wif of the
 said John Croster A gilt cup w^t a cov' to John Croster
 my godson vj silv' sponys To Elizabeth Croster A pece

of silv' 'To Alice Croster A maser And I will that
 ev'y child shallbe y^e others heyre It' I beque'the to
 Robert ffoster ij ryng of silv' and gilt to Maryon ffoster
 A standing pece of silv' w^toute A cov' A maser
 and vj silv' spones 'To Andrew ffoster a crosse of silv'
 and gilt to John Warde A doublett of Worsted and A
 payre of hosen It' I beque'th to Ric' Wether oon of my
 foxe furred gownes and my cloke It I beque'th to
 Robert Lane my godson a goblett of silv' w^t three feet
 To his moder Elizabeth lane A ryng of gold To Wil-
 liam Bekingh'm carpent' a ryng of gold To his Wif a
 ryng of gold To James Totehill at thende of his yeres
 beside his wage vj^s viij^d to Henry Totehill and he be
 bounde and kepe out his yeres then according to my
 coven'nte I woll he shall have xL^s It' I beque'th to John
 Tedyr my blake gowne furred It' I beque'th to John
 lane my violett gowne furred w^t shanke the best It' I
 beque'th to John Croster my muzzey gowne lyned It' I
 beque'the to Thomas Polsted gent a russett gowne that
 shallbe redy furred for him w^t foxe It' I beque'th to
 John Blakney wever a single tawny gowne and a doublet
 of lether sleved w^t Worsted It' I bequeth to the poore
 householders w^tin the pisshe of Seynt Oluff aforeseid
 where moost nede is to be geven amonge theym afir the
 discrecion of myn executrice xx^s It' I will that the said
 Elizabeth my Wif shall duryng hir lif kepe an obite
 yerely for my soule in the said church of seynt Oluff at
 which obite to be spent xx^s amonge preeste and clerke
 and the poore people of the same pisshe as shall thinke
 best to be doon It' I geve and beque'th to the said
 Elizabeth my Wyf all my londe and tent' wodez pasture
 and Waters w^t all their app^rten'nce which I have in the
 pisshe of Bromeley in the Countie of Kent in the pisshe
 of Newenton in the Countie of Surr' in Brayneford in
 the pisshe of Yeling in the County of Midd' To have

and to hold to the same Elizabeth for t^me of hir life And after her decesse I will that all my said londe and tente Woodes and Waters w^t thapp^rtenⁿces in Brayneford aforseid to be sold by the ov'seares of this my last will to the moost advauntage And that they w^t the money therof comyng p'chase asmuche londe to the value w^tin the Citie of london which lond so p'chased I geve and beque^th to the feliship of the grocers w^tin the Citie of london and to their successours to thentent that they shall yerely for ev'more kepe an obite for my soule w^tin the church of Seynt Oluff aforeseid upon midlent sonday that is to Wite w^t placebo and dirige by note on the even' and masse of Requiem on the morow And that the maisters and Wardeyns of the said feliship w^t other of theire company to be at the said Dirige and masse and say the psalme of De profundis for my soule w^t other prayers to the same psalme accustomed At which obite I will there be spent and disposed amonge preeste and clerke ringyng of belle and upon the said feliship at the same tyme beyng p'sent xvj^s viij^d after the discrecions and Wyseoms of the said Maisters and Wardeyns for the tyme beyng And if it soo be that the said Maister and Wardeyns refuse and will not take upon theym the charge of the said obite than I will that the said lond so p'chased in london be disposed by my said ov'seers or by any or theym that shall lengest happen to be on lyve in other good werke and deede of charitie as they shall thinke best to be doon to the pleasur' of god and pfitt of my soule It' I woll that if the pisshen's of the pisshe of seynt Oluff aforeseid w^tin the space of two yeres next folowing aft' my decesse purchase a corporacion for o^r lady bretherhed kepte w^tin the said church of seynt Oluff than I woll that aftir the decesse of the said Elizabeth my Wif all my seid londe and tente in Bromeley and Newenton aforsaid remayn to the said bretherhode of o^r lady therew^t to synde

a preeste ppetually so syng for my soule my frende soules & all cristen soules in the church of seynt Oluff for the ppetuall contynuaunce therof to be made as sure as shalbe advised by the counsailli lerned of my said ov'sears in man' and fo^rme abovesaid Provided alwey that if the said pisshen's puchase not the said corpacion as before is rehersed Than I will that my said londe in Bromeley & Newenton aforesaid be ordered aft' the good discrecions of my said ov'sears to make A free scole at the towne of Guldford or to be disposed in other goode werke and deede of charitie as they shall thinke best to be done to the moost pleasur' of Almighty god and profit of my soule The Residue of my goode dette and catalle moevable and unmoevable Where soev' they may be founde my dette paid and this my p'sent testament fulfilled I geve and beque'th to the saide Elizabeth my Wif therew^t to doo hir own free will Which Elizabeth I ordeyn & make of this my p'sent testament and last will my sole executrice Also I ordeyne and make the said Thomas Polsted John Lane and John Croster ov'seers of the same Thies Wittnesses beyng p'sent Edmond Hudson Ric' Beckyngh'm Ric' Wether Robert ffoster Thomas Adnell Richard Vannell and other In Wittnes Wherof to this my p'sent testament and last Will I have put my seale. Goven the day and yeres abovesaid

Proved 13 Nov. 1509 by Elizabeth, relict and executrix

(P. C. C. Bennett, folio 21.)

THE WILL OF ELIZABETH BECKINGHAM, HIS WIFE

In the Name of God Amen The xvth day of August
The yere of o^r lord god MVX And the ij^{de} yere of
the Reigne of King Henry the viij I Elizabeth Bek-
yngh'm of London Widow beyng in my good and
hole mynde thanked be god make ordeyn & dispose
this my present testament conteyning my last Will in
man' and fo^rme folowing that is to Witte ffirst I beque'th
recomend my soule unto almighty god my maker &
redem' to his glorious moder of mercy o^r lady Mary the
Virgin & to all the hole company of he'ven And my
body to be buried in the churche of seynt Oluff in Suth-
werk in the Countie of Surrey before the Roode there yn
or nyghe the place where the body of Robert bekyng'h'm
late my husbond now lyeth buried And I beque'th unto
the high aulter of the same church of seynt Oluff for my
tithes & oblacions forgotten or necligently w^t holden in
dischargeing of my soule iij^s iiij^d It' I beque'th to the
bretherhed of o^r lady in the same church founded iij^s iiij^d It'
I beque'th to the susterhod of seynt Anne there xij^d It'
I beque'th to the bretherhode of seynt Clement seynt
Ursula Alhalowen and seynt Eleyn in the same churche
founded iij^s iiij^d It' I beque'th to Blanche my cosyn A
gowne & A kyrtil and asmoche household stuff as shall
extende to the some of xx^s It' I beq'th to Johane
Otle a rynge of gold w^t A rede tablett It' I beque'th to
Richard Wyther taylor xL^s that is to saye in money xx^s &
in household stuff xx^s A dyap towell and A payre of
shete It' I beque'th to the same Ric' Whether toward
the keping of Robert Wyly xL^s And if the same Robert
Wyly at any time be taken from the custody of the said

Richard Whether than I beque'th xL^s to the same Ric' Whether to have his owne propre use Itm I beque'th to the Wif of the same Ric' Whether A gowne of violett furred w^t graye It' I beque'th to Johane Whether vj playn napkyns and A playn towell It' I beque'th to Agnes Wether vj diap^r napkyns and A towell of Raynys It' I beque'th Ric' Bekyngh'm my broder in lawe A silv' spone It' I beque'th to Robert lane and Elizabeth lane vj silv' sponys lyke mases in fac'eon (*fashion*) at thendes It' I beque'th to Agnes fford A payre of shet^e It' I beque'th to y^e Wif of Thomas Polsted a russat gowne furred w^t shanke It' I beque'th to the Wif of John lane groc' A violet gowne furrid w^t shanke It' I beque'th Elizabeth Tyndall A violett gowne furrid w^t white It' I beque'th to Sr Robert Davey my gostly fader to pray for my soule vj^s viij^d It' I beque'th unto moder basse in household stuff x^s It' I beque'th to Rauff ffaryngton Robert May & to Antony Totehill myn apprentice iij^{li} that is to wite to ev'y of them xx^s And also ev'y of them to have a pane & A ketill of brasse aftr the discricion of myn executo^rs w^t in named ffurthermore as to the disposecion of all my londe and tent' wode pasture & watere w^t all their app^rtennce which I have in braynford in the pisshe of Yelyng in the Countie of Midd' I will that all my said londe and tent^e w^t other the p^rmissez and app^rtennce aforsaid be sold by myn executo^rs underwritten at the most avauntage and that they w^t the money therof comyng p^rchase alsomuche londe and tent^e to the value therof win the Citie of london which londe and tent^e so purchased I geve and beque'th to the feliship of grocers w^t in the said Citie and to their successors To thentent that they shall yerely for ev'more kepe an obit for my soule the soule of Robert bekyngh'm my husbond the soules of John ffyshe and Cristian his Wif my fader and moder and all cristen soules

w^t in the said pisshe churche of seynt Oluff upon Midd-
lent sonday that is to wite w^t Placebo and Dirige by note
on the even and masse of Requiem on the morrow And
that the Maisters and Wardeyns of the said feliship
w^t other of their company to be at the saide Dirige and
masse and say the psalme of De profundis for my soule &
the soules aforesaid w^t other prayers to the same psalme
acustomed At whiche obit I will there be spent and
disposid amonge preeste and clerke ryngyng of belle and
upon feliship at the same obite beyng p^sent xvj^s viij^d aftir
the discrecions and Wisedoms of the Maisters and War-
deyns of the same crafte of grocers for the tyme beyng
And if so be that the said Maisters and Wardeyns refuse
and woll not take upon theym the charge of the said
obite I will then that the same londe and tente so
p^rchased in london by disposid by myⁿ executo^rs and by
either of them lengest lyving in other good Werke deede
of charitie as they shall thinke best to be doon to the
pleasur^e of god and helth of my soule The Residue of
all my goode catalls & dette what soev^r they be aftir my
dett^e paid the cost^e of my burying don and as well this
my p^sent testament as the testameⁿt of the forsaide Robert
Bekyngh^m my husbond Whose executrix I am in all
thinge p^rformed and fulfilled I woll be disposid for the
helthe of my soule in deede and werke of m^ycy & pytie
by the discrecion of Thomas Polsted gent & John lane
Citizen & groc^e of london Whiche Thomas Polsted and
John lane of this my p^sent testameⁿt I make and ordeyn
myⁿ executo^rs And I beque^th to either of them for
his labo^r in the p^rmissez to be had x^s And their ov^rsear
I make and ordeyn the forsaide Ric^e Wether & John
Tyndall And I beque^th to either of my said ov^rsears for
his labo^r to be had in the p^rmissez vj^s viij^d In wittnesse
Whereof to this my p^sent testameⁿt and last Will I have
sett my seale Goven the day and yere abovesaid Thies

Wittnessen John Gelston Wyresellar Thomas Adnell
lethersellar and Citizens of london.

Proved 7 Nov. 1510 by Thomas Polsted & John Lane
executors.

(P. C. C. 33 Bennett)

ABSTRACT OF THE WILL OF THOMAS POLSTED

12 MAR
152⁸/₉ 'I Thomas Polsted of the parishe of Stoke
next Guldeforde in the Countie of Surrey'—to be buried in the parishe Churche
of Stoke in the body of the Churche before the Roode
there—to the Parish Churche of the Holy Trinitie in
Guldford 20s—my exors: 'to fynde an honest preest
of good conuersacion to say masse in the parishe Churche
where my body is buried to pray for my soule my father
and mother soules Henry Elyott soule the soule of
Robert Bekingham and Elizabethe his wife for Lawrence
Harrison soule and all Xren soules'—daughter
Margaret if she marry with consent of my wife & sons
—wife Agnes—sons Thomas & Henry Polsted—brothers
Henry & John Polsted—guardianship of Anthony, son of
Humphry & Elizabeth Elmes (of Henley on Thames) to
my wife and sons—exors: sd. wife & sons.

Proved 20 Ap 1529 by Agnes, Thomas & Henry
Polsted.

DEED EXECUTED BY THE EXECUTORS
OF ROBERT BECKINGHAM, ENDOWING
THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL WITH CERTAIN
RENTALS AT BROMLEY AND
NEWINGTON

Be this knowyn to all men to whom p'sent (*present*) wrytyny tripparted Indented shall com' that where Robt. Bekyngham late of London Grocer deceassyd by his last will made and declaryd the third day of November the yere of our lord god mvix and in the ffirst yere of the reign of Kyng Henry the viijth among othyr thyngs Godly declared and made withyn the pisshe of Seynt Olof yn Southwerk withyn the space of two yerys next folowyng aftur his deceasse perpetually to the corpacon (*corporation*) for oure Lady Brothorhod kept withyn the seid churche that then after the deceasse of Elizabeth the wif of the seid Robt. all her lands and rents in Bromley in the countye of Kent and Newenton in the countye of Surr' shuld remayn to the seid Brotherhod of oure Lady therewith to fynd a prest p'petually (*perpetually*) to syng for his soule his frynds soulys and all cristyn soulys in the seid churche of Seynt Olef p'vyddyd (*provided*) alwey that if the seid pochiens (*parishioners*) p'chasyd (*purchased*) not the corp' acon as before reherse'd then the seid Robt. by his seid last will willyd that his seyde lands and ten'ts (*tenements*) in Bromley and Newenton forseid shuld be ordred aftur the good descres'ons of the ov'seers (*overseers*) of his seid last will to make a free scole at the Towne of Guldeford or in other works & deds of charite after the discrec'on of the seid ov'seers as in the seid last will more playnly it apppyth (*appeareth*) which Robt. Bekyngham to thentente that his seid last

will shuld be well and truly p'formyd (*performed*) and fulfyllyd he enfeoffid the said Thomas Polsted, John Lane, Edmond Hudson, John Croster, and Will'm Baron of the seid landys and ten'ts (*tenements*) and made the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane, and John Croster ov'seers of his seid last will and the foreseid Robt. Bekyngham aft' ward the v day of november the yere of the Lord God invix aforeseid dyed and the pochiens (*parishioners*) of the seid pisshe (*parish*) of Seynt Olef as yet have purchesyd no corp'acon (*corporation*) for the seid Brotherhod of oure Lady wherfore the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane, and John Croster be'n (*being*) now bounden in ther conscyens to see the seid lands and ten'ts (*tenements*) orderd and disposid to the mayntennce of the ffree scole in the seid Towne of Guldeford accordyng to the seid last will of the seid Robt. Bekyngham or in other dedes of charite for the begynnyng stablysshyng and contynuall mayntennce of which ffree scole it is nowe condyssendyd concludyd and agreed be'twene the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane, and John Croster, and Harry Norbrigge, meier of the seid Towne of Guldeford John Stoughton, Will^am Russell, John Parkyn, John George, John Shyngelton, and Will^am Hamond, Inhabitaunts wiⁿ (*within*) the seid Towne in maner and forme heraftur ensuyng that is to wete fyrst the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane, and John Croster, ben contentid and agreed to make a ffeoffement of the seid lands and ten'ts (*tenements*) to Sir George Maners, knyght, Robt. Wyntreshill (*Wyntershill*), Esquyer, Gilbert Stoughton, Henry Norbrigge, Will^am Russell, John Weston, Will^am Westbroke, Cristofer More, Danyel Mugge, John Perkyn, John George, Nicholas Elyot, Will^am Hamond, John Shyngelton, and John Stoughton, to have and hold the seid lands and ten'ts (*tenements*) to theym and to there heires for ev' (*ever*) to thuse (*the use*) and intent that

from hensforth the meier of the seid Towne of Guldeford for the tyme beyng and fower of the moste honest sad and discrete p'sons (*persons*) inhabitunt in the seid Towne that have be'n meirs of the same Towne or twoo of them shall yerely p'ceyve (*perceive*) and take the issues and p'fits (*profits*) of the seid lands & ten'ts (*tenements*) uppon condic'on that the meier of the seid Towne of Guldeford for the tyme beyng and his Brethern such as have ben meiers of the same Towne and other enhabitaunts withyn the same Towne shall from hensforth kepe and maynte'n a ffree gramer scole in the seid Towne of Guldeford and that there shalbe a sufficient scole master there alwey from hensforth to kepe the seid scole and frely to teche all childern beyng in the same scole the same scole master to be namyd appoyntyd and removyd by the meier of the seid Towne for the tyme beyng and by fower of his most sad and discrete Brethern inhabitant in the seid Towne suche as have be'n meiers of the same Towne. Also it is agreed that the meier of the seid Towne and his seid Brethern shall kepe and maynteyn all the howsys of the seid lands and ten'ts well and sufficiently repeyred at all tymes and if the meier of the seid Towne of Guldeford and his seid Brethern frome hensforth do not kepe and maynteyn a ffree gramer scole in the seid Towne and a sufficient scole master frely to teche all childern beyng in the same scole at all tymes and also kepe and maynteyn the rep'acons (*reparations*) of all the howses of the seid lands and ten'ts as is afore rehersyd then it is concludyd and agreed betwene the seid parties to thyese indenturys that the seid Sir George Maners and his cofeoffees of the seid lands and ten'ts not dwellyng in the seid Towne of Guldeford and all other p'sons that heraftur shalbe heraftur seasyd of the seid lands and ten'ts and be not dwellyng in the seid Towne of Guldeford shall from thencforth v'ceyve (*perceive*) and

take thyssues (*the issues*) revenues and p'fits (*profits*) of the seid lands and ten'ts and with the same kepe and maynteyn a free gramer scole in the seid Towne of Guldeford or in som' other place withyn the seid countye of Surr' by their discrecons to be lymytted and appoyntyd in like maner and forme as is afore rehersyd or ellys the seid ffeoffees with the seid Issues and p'fits to do som' other good ded of charite accordyng to the seid last will of the seid Robt. Bekyngham and when' it shall happen all the seid ffeoffees to dye except foure then those foure that longest lyve shall make a ffeoffement of the seid lands and ten'ts by dede indentid to xiiij or xvi of the moost wurshipfull honest sad and discrete gentilmen dwellyng next to the seid Towne of Guldeford and to the most honeste and substanciall Brethern of the seid Towne to have and hold the seid lands and ten'ts to theym and to there heires to the use and intents afore rehersyd and so from tyme to tyme as often and when' all the ffeoffees of the seid lands and ten'ts be'n ded (*being dead*) except foure those foure the longest lyve shall make a newe ffeoffement of the seid lands and ten'ts to xiiij or xvi of the most worshipfull sad and discrete gentelmen dwellyng next to the seid Towne of Guldeford and to the most honest and substancial Brethern of the same Towne to thuses (*the uses*) and intents afore expressed Also it is concluded and agreed be twene the seid p'ties that the scole master of the seid scole for the tyme beyng and the children of the same scole shall sey ev'y (*every*) day in the mornyng when they first asseemble in the scole the Salmys (*Psalms*) 'Bene miserias me.' and, 'Deus in nom' tuo saluum me fac,' and at nyght ev'y (*every*) day afore they depart oute of the scole to seye the salme of 'miserere mei deus' wt 'De profundis' and the orisons to the same salme appyrd (*appointed*) for the soullys of the seid Robt. Bekyngham and Elizabeth his wife and for the

soulys of all the benefact's and maynteynors of the seid scole departed and for the good p'fite and welfare of all them that be'n levyng. In Witnes wherof to one p'te (*part*) of this Indenture with the forseid meier and Inhabitaunts of Guldeford remaynyng the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane, and John Croster, have sette their seales and to the second p'te of the indenture with the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane, and John Croster, and Sir George Maners, and his coffeoffees remaynyng the seid meier and inhabitaunts have sette their seales and to the third p'te of this endenture remaynyng with the Prior and Convent of the Friary next Guldeford as well the seid meire and inhabitaunts of Guldeford as the seid Thomas Polsted, John Lane and John Croster, have severally sette their seales geven the fourth day of May the iiijth yere of reign of Kyng Henry the viijth

Attached to this deed are nine slips of parchment by which the seals of the signatories were appended, but only three of the seals remain; of these one label has the name of Thomas Polsted, but the seal is too obliterated to say what was the device. The next has the name of John Lane and the shield appears to be charged with *three chevronels interlaced with a cross in chief*. The third seal is quite illegible and the label, like the remaining six, has no name on it.

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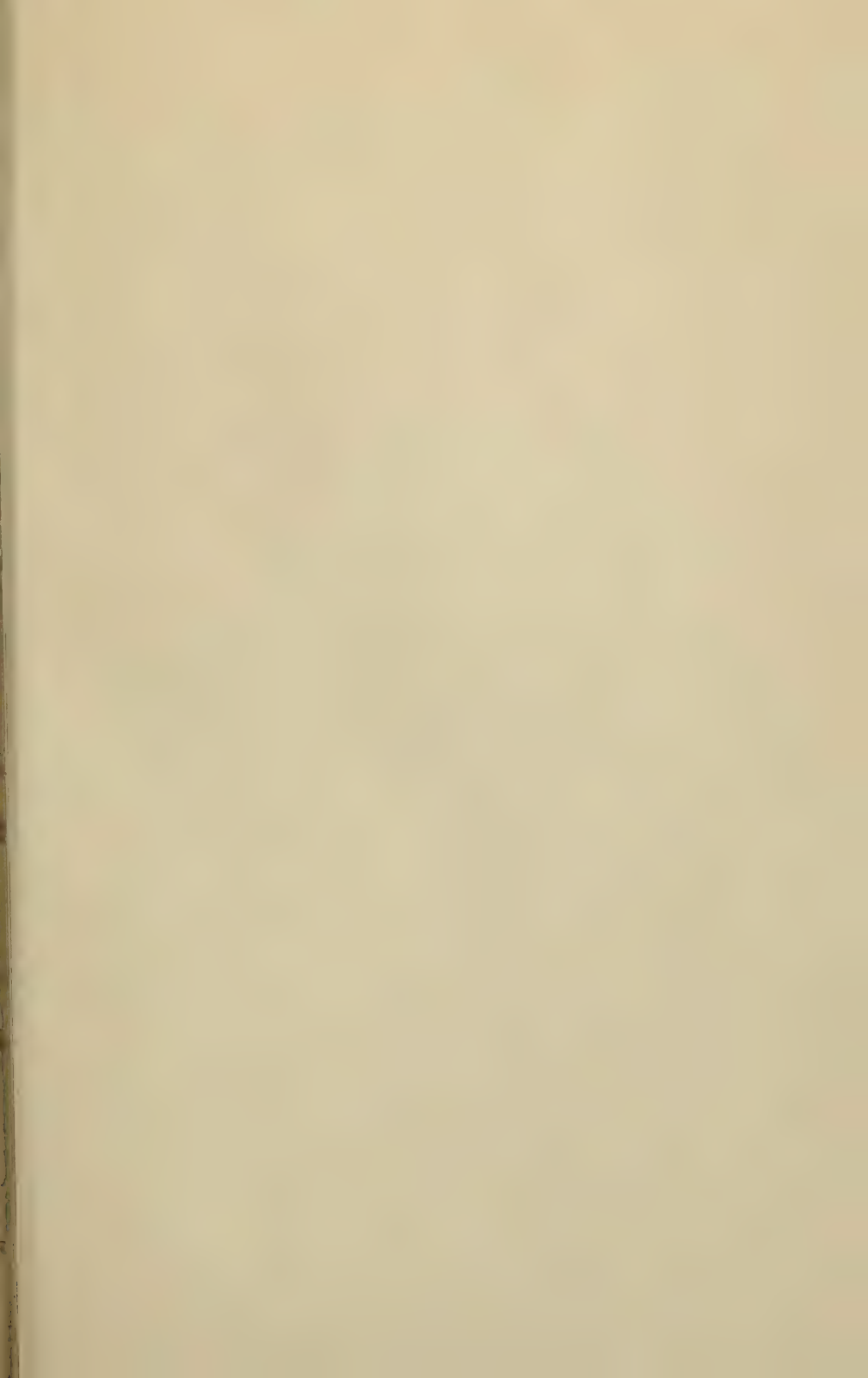
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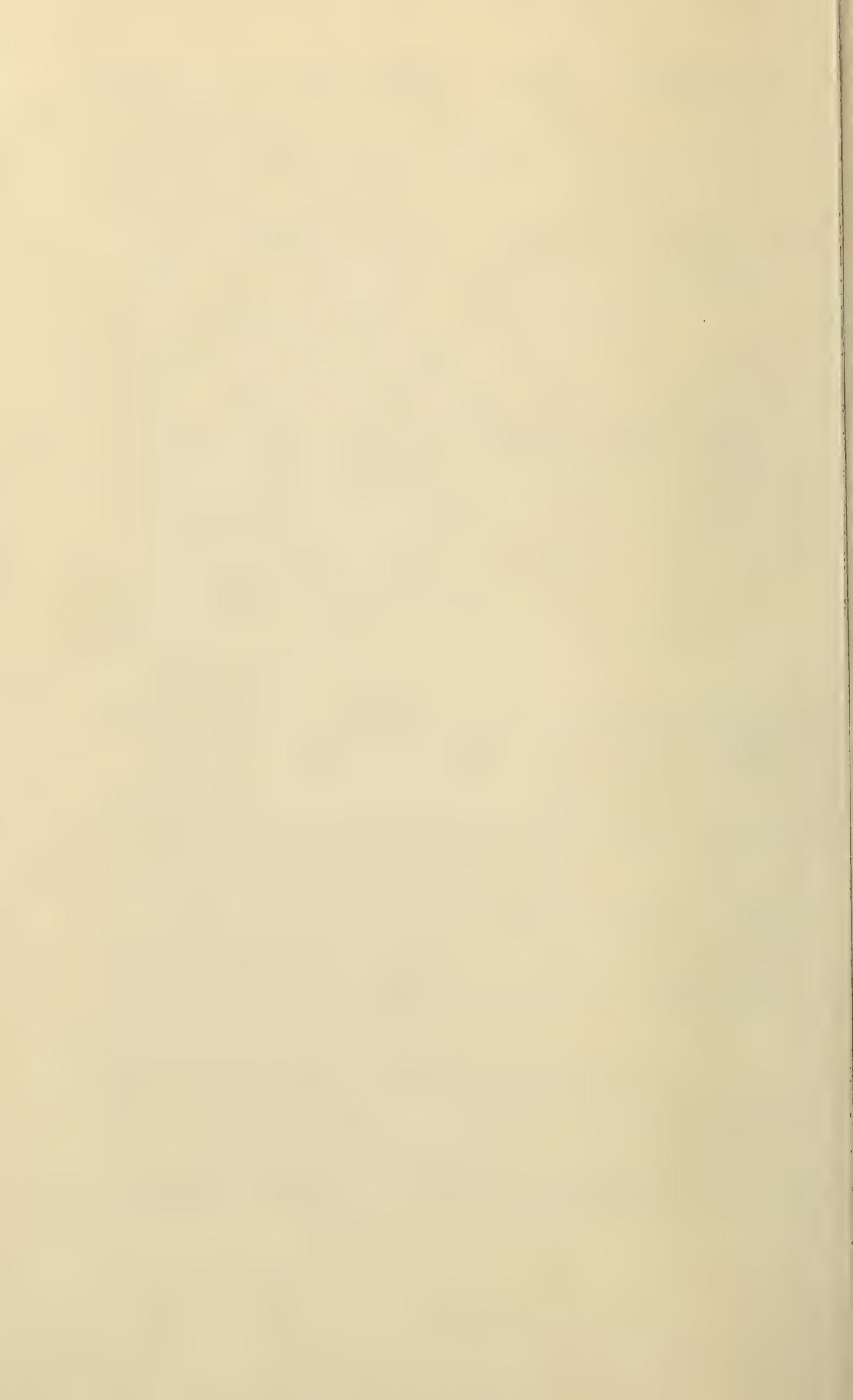
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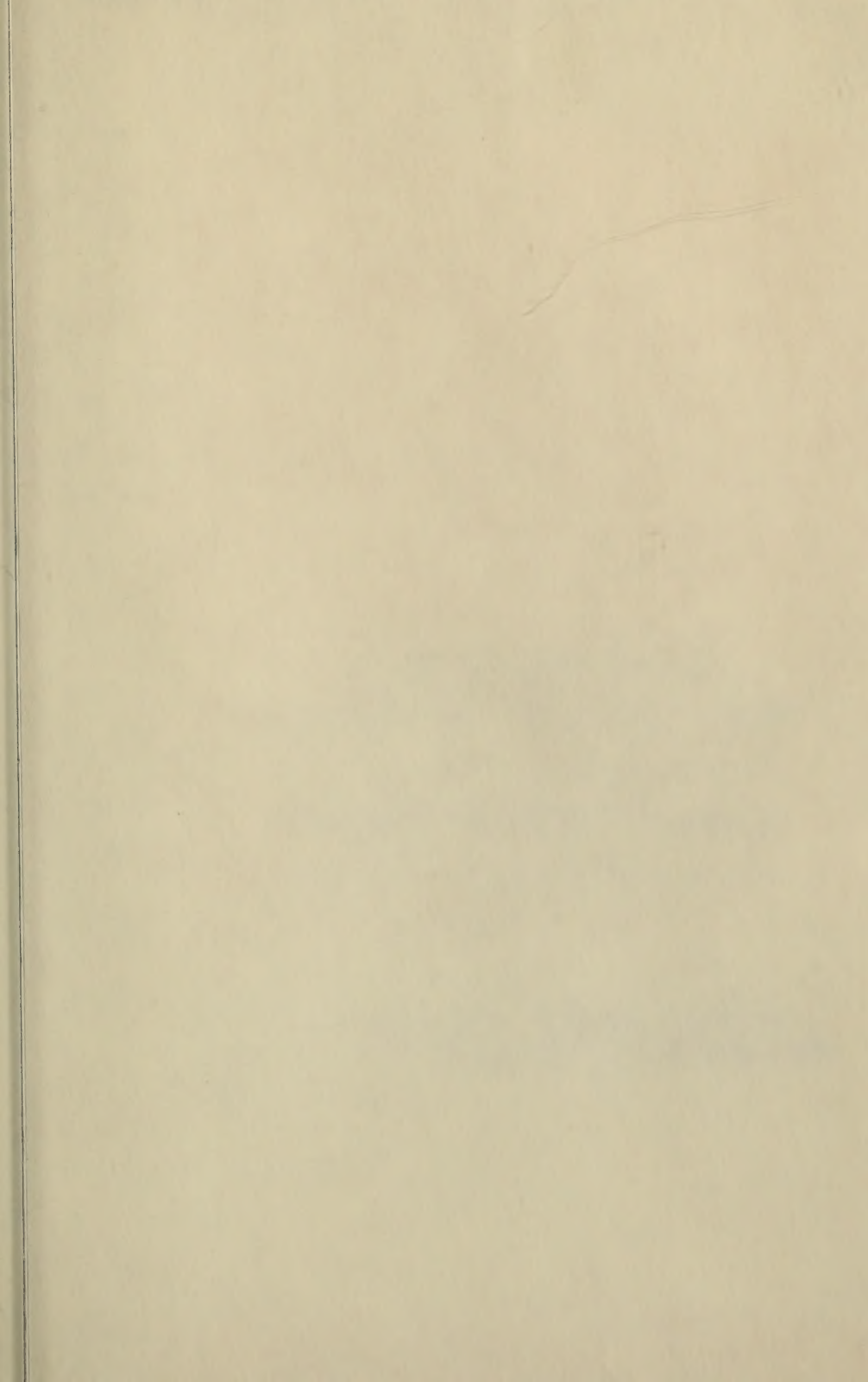
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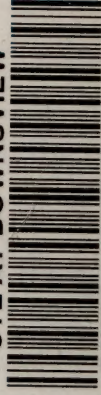


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